Longman

American History

Atlas

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Longman American History Atlas

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Preface

This atlas is designed to sit beside you as you study our nation's past. It belongs on your desk, next to a basic textbook, alongside a collection of interpretive readings or a set of primary source documents. These maps have been designed to hold a lot of information in an accessible manner. Most of them are unique to this volume and include parts of social history seldom seen geographically—like the history of ordinary settlers, Native Americans, and immigrants.

This atlas also tries to outline the whole continent of the United States—describing the settlement of Europeans as flowing not only from east-to-west but from north-to-south. For example, the settlement maps you'll find in six places in this atlas are designed to give you a snapshot of what the country looked like at a particular point in time—detailing the extent of European settlement, Native American groups, major transportation networks and economic patterns. In this way, this atlas has been created to give a comprehensive picture of our country and the people who have helped to make it what it is today.

This atlas has benefited from the help of eight subject specialists, all of whom teach the American history survey course and have an abiding interest in maps. These experts, on subjects as diverse as World War I, western history, and African Americans, have examined all the maps in this atlas and helped us create a resource which is as historically accurate as it is easy to understand.

Geography has been immensely important in the history of the United States. It has helped determine where settlers survived and where they encountered disease, where railroads were laid and where canals seemed more appropriate, where cities have thrived and where agriculture is king. You can use this atlas to learn about the history and geography of this country in five general ways—the first one is the easiest.

Locating Places

When you come across a place and do not know where it is located, you can turn to the index of this atlas and find the page on which it appears. If it is a city or town, the locator symbol such as A1 or H7 will tell you where to find this mysterious place on the appropriate map. Each map is divided into an imaginary grid. The columns running up and down on the map are assigned a number starting at the left. In the same way, each row of blocks running along the top has a letter of the alphabet. Thus a place located in A1 would be at the top left of the map while H7 would direct your search to the lower right. For example, the battle of Antietam will be located on page 29, in block number E7.

Reading Historical Maps

An atlas is more than just a place-finding tool. All maps are more than just tables showing locations. They are living creations and tell stories. We've taken great pains to avoid cluttering the maps in this atlas so that each one can tell its story in a straightforward way.

Reading the title of each map is the best way to start reading the map. What historical moment is the central theme of this map? Then look at the area covered, noting how insets often highlight particular regions in greater detail. Carefully note the legend which provides the key to the symbols used by the cartographer. Why were these data chosen and not others? How does the information provided tell a story? When did the story take place? What changes over time are indicated on the map? What questions or connections are suggested by other data available on the map?

Asking a regular sequence of questions is a good way to get started reading any document. Another way is to read the captions underneath the map. Each of these little paragraphs starts

with a general

the subject

question to

Pre-readi

This atlas

tion with a

American

nent maps

good way to begin a study session. For example,

looking at the maps on pages 25 through 34

might be a good prelude to reading about

Secession and the Civil War—they'll help you

see how the North and South were differently

equipped to fight a war and will give you some

information to see how the war affected both

sides of the country. Spending a few minutes

analyzing the map provides a geographic context

and a conceptual vocabulary that help set up the

chapter. Beginning any assignment with an

appropriate frame of reference is bound to pay

handsome dividends.

Geographic Roots

This atlas can play an active role in your study of history by serving as a manual to root the historical events in geography. Anchoring history in particular places is a central function of historical geography. History always changes but locations are a constant element. The maps you should look at first in this atlas are those that begin it—the maps which describe the topography of this continent. These topographical features are what hold the narrative together.

can also be used after you've learned about

effect on how each period in

contributed to the general course of his-

Reflection is a quest for

looking back," trying to fit a specif-

the general flow of time. But Clio,

of history, is not a tidy person. The

general syntheses that she offers never fits exact-

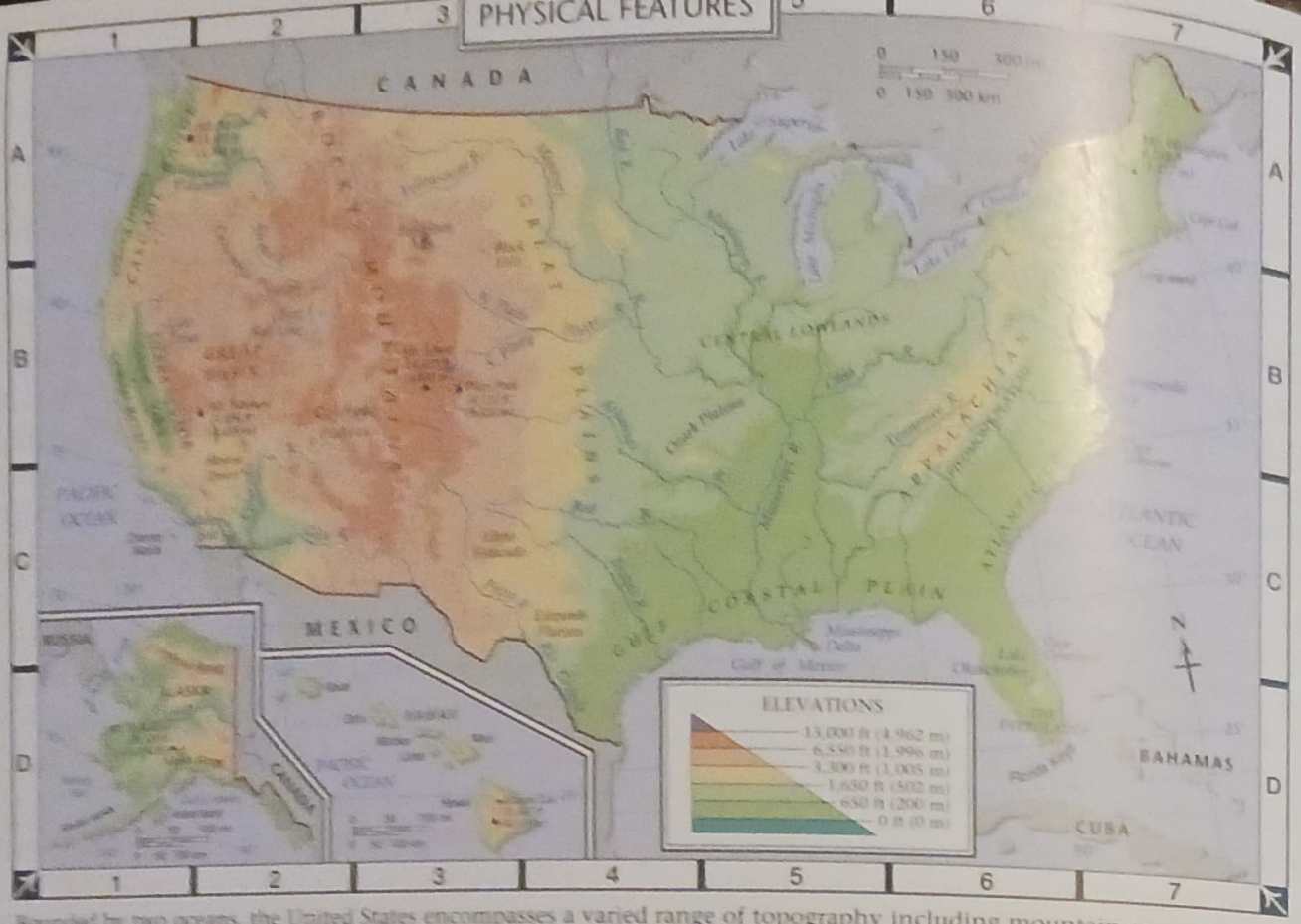
ly. Maps have a way of intimating that we do not

know the full story.

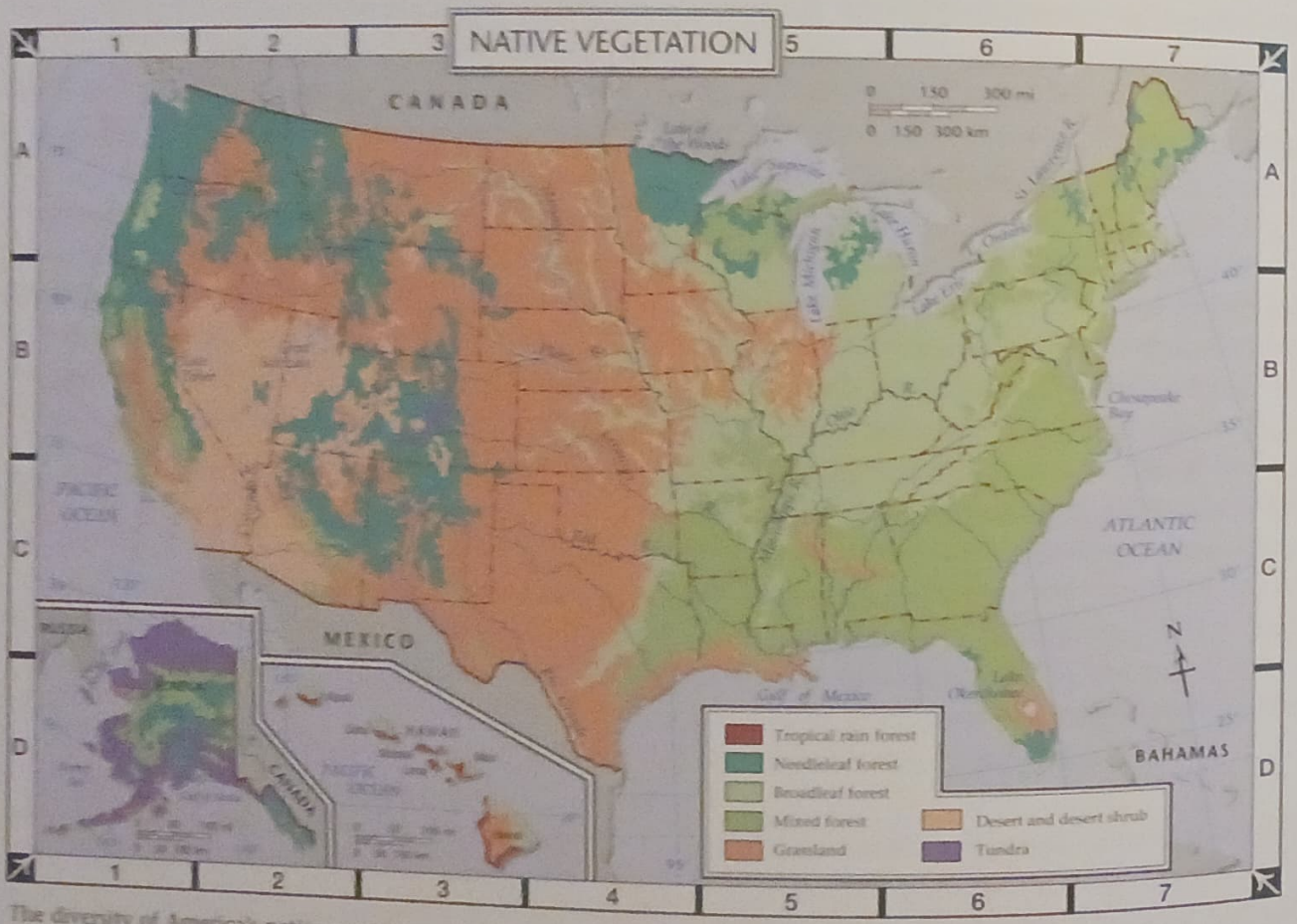
No map can answer all the questions that it raises. Maps never reach an end, always suggest other dimensions beyond the page, just off the edge of the sheet. Ideally, they should help us to see that history is more inquiry than resolution. We hope that this atlas will encourage you to actively engage the past as you seek to understand it. We wish you well on your adventure and send along these maps to sit beside you.

We wish to thank all the people who have been involved in the development of this project. This has been a very collaborative effort and we are thankful for the feedback from the following people: David R. Buck, West Virginia University; Kathleen Carter, High Point University; Debbie Kaspar, Clatsop Community College; Richard Francaviglia, University of Texas at Arlington; Rita E. Loos, Framingham State College; and Bill Paquette, Tidewater College.

Gerald A. Danzer
University of Illinois at Chicago

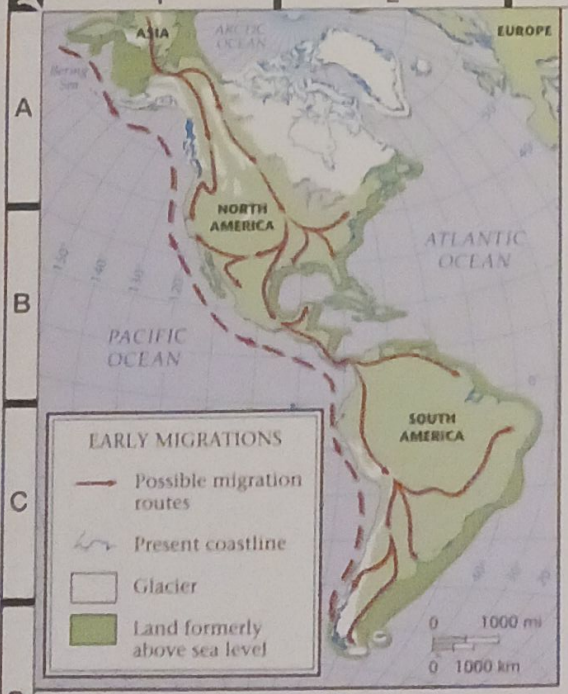


Bounded by two oceans, the United States encompasses a varied range of topography including mountain ranges, coastal lowlands, and plains, tropical islands, and countless lakes and rivers. About which portion of the contiguous forty-eight states is drained by the Mississippi River and its tributaries?



The diversity of America's native vegetation gives each region a particular character. The East is largely dominated by mixed forests of needleleaf (coniferous) and broadleaf (deciduous) trees; forests gradually give way to grasslands in the Midwest; and the Far West exhibits a mixture of forest, grassland, and desert. The northernmost state, Alaska, includes vast expanses of tundra; while to the south, the Hawaiian Islands have both tropical forests and grasslands. How has the diversity of ecosystems influenced the development of the American nation?

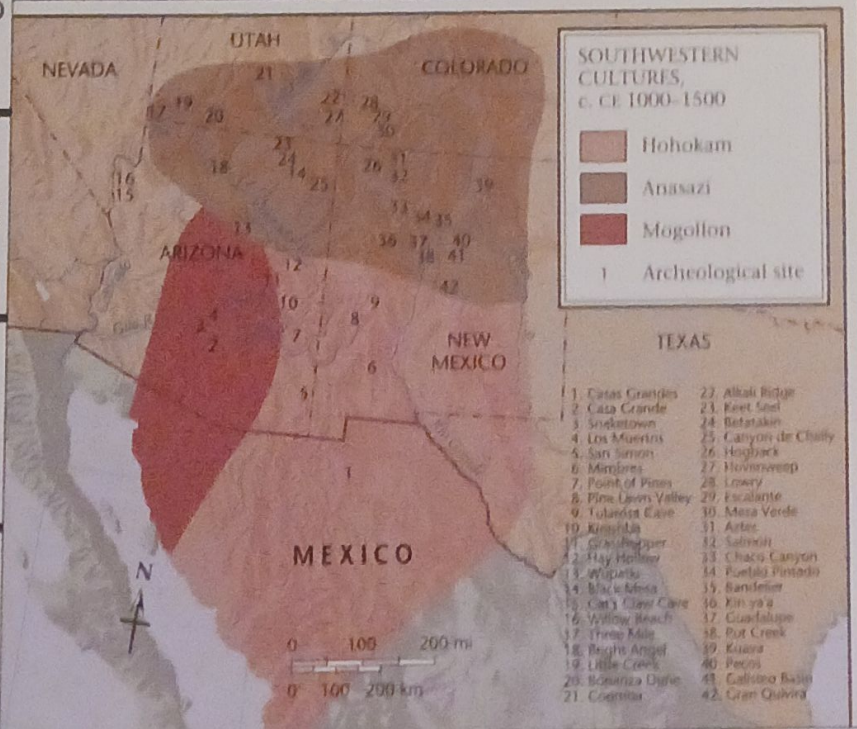
NATIVE AMERICAN PEOPLES TO 1450



EARLY MIGRATIONS
- Possible migration routes
- Present coastline
- Glacier
- Land formerly above sea level

ADENA–HOPEWELL PEOPLES, 700 BCE–900 CE
- Hopwellian cultural area
- Adena cultural area
- Hopwellian mound site
- Adena mound site

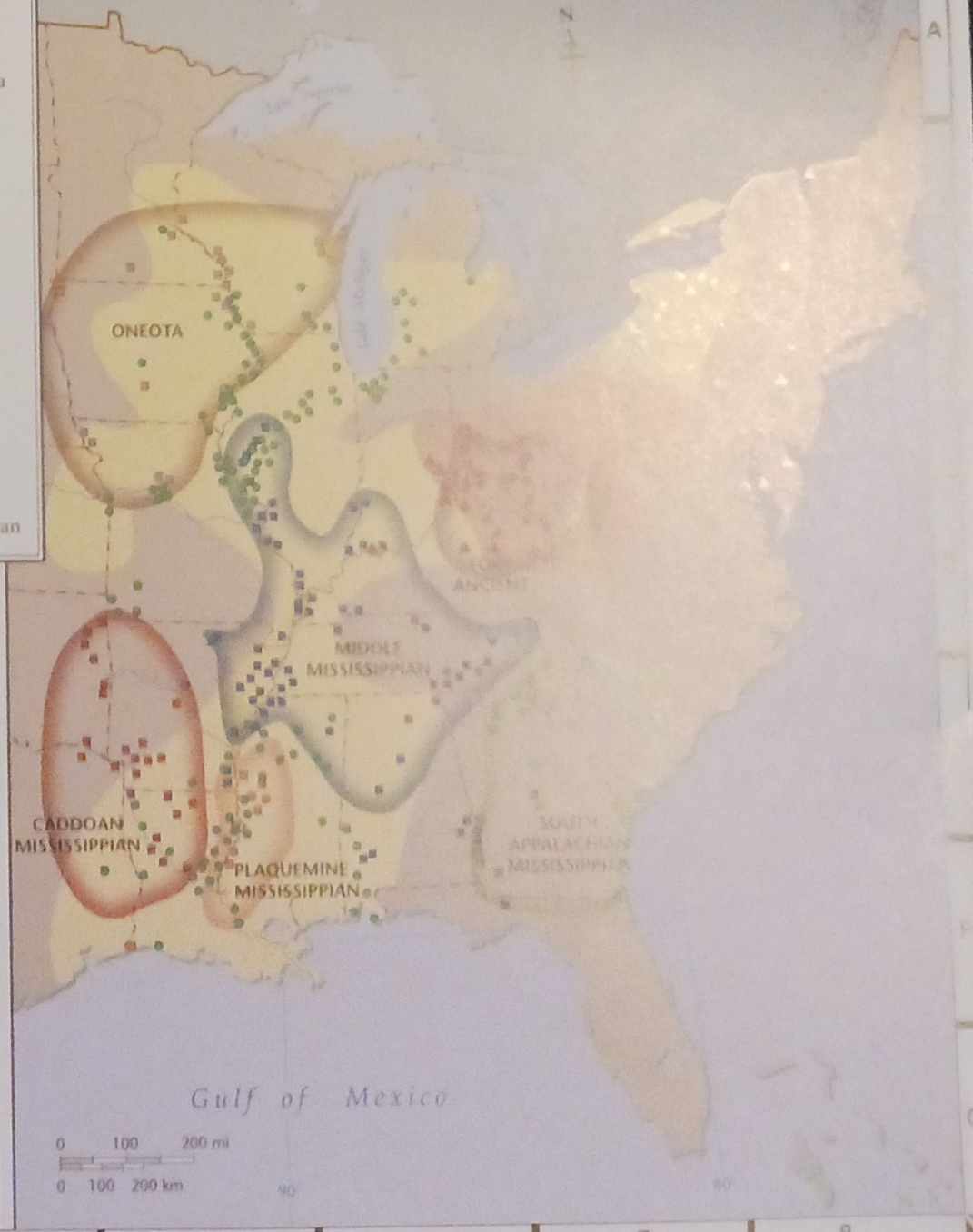
MISSISSIPPIAN MOUND BUILDERS, CE 900–1450
Temple Sites:
- Oneota
- Caddoan Mississippian
- Middle Mississippian
- Fort Ancient
- South Appalachian Mississippian
- Plaquemine Mississippian



SOUTHWESTERN CULTURES, c. CE 1000–1500
- Hohokam
- Anasazi
- Mogollon
- 1 Archeological site

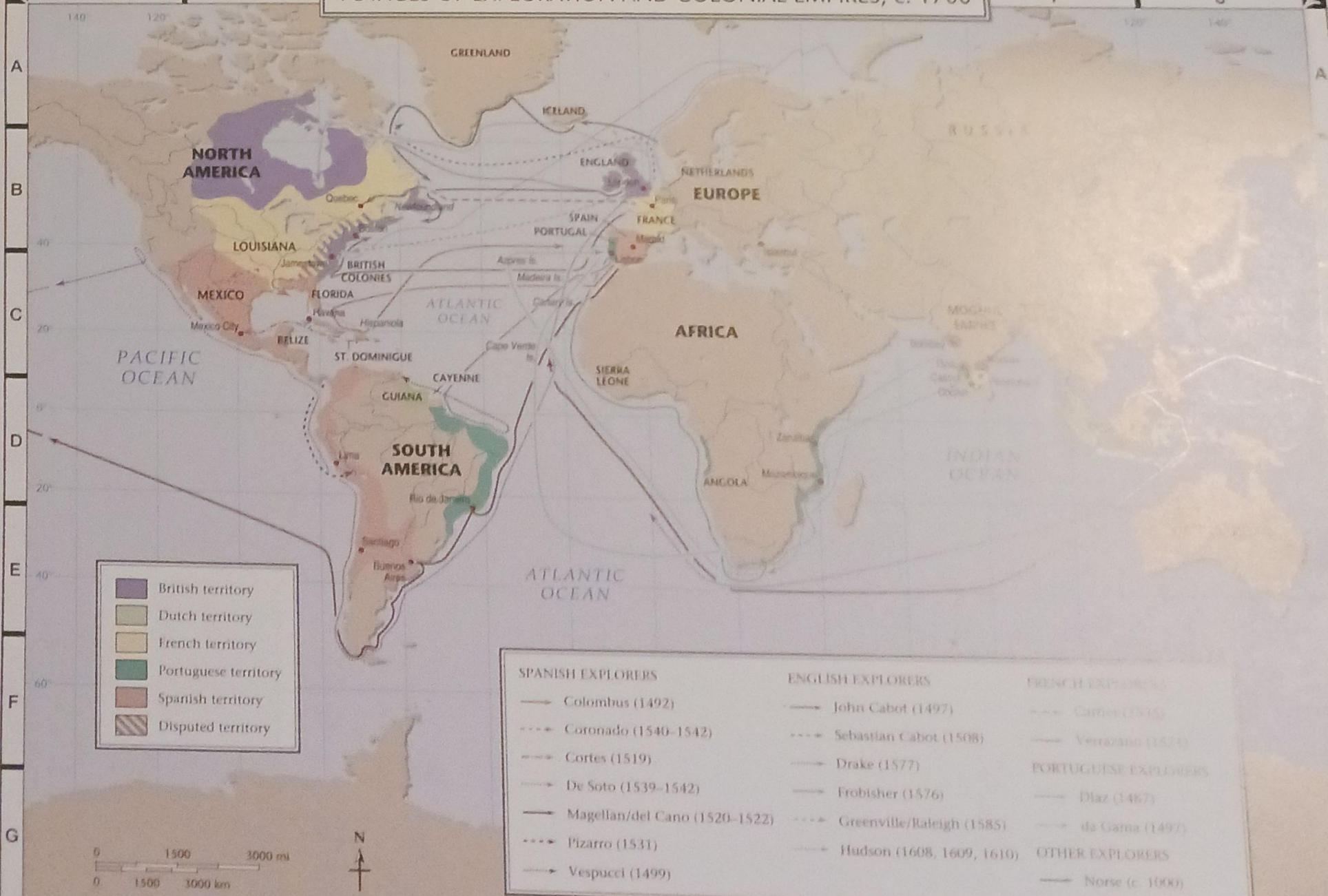
TEXAS

1. Casas Grandes
2. Casa Grande
3. Snaketown
4. Los Muertos
5. San Simon
6. Mimbres
7. Point of Pines
8. Pine Lawn Valley
9. Tularosa Cave
10. Kinishba
11. Grasshopper
12. Hay Hollow
13. Wupatki
14. Black Mesa
15. Cat's Claw Cave
16. Willow Beach
17. Three Kids
18. Bright Angel
19. Little Creek
20. Bonanza Dune
21. Coenitia
22. Alkali Ridge
23. Keet Seel
24. Betatakin
25. Canyon de Chelly
26. Hogback
27. Hovenweep
28. Lowry
29. Escalante
30. Mesa Verde
31. Aztec
32. Salmon
33. Chaco Canyon
34. Pueblo Pintado
35. Bandelier
36. Kin ya'a
37. Guadalupe
38. Pot Creek
39. Kuaua
40. Pecos
41. Gallisteo Basin
42. Gran Quivira



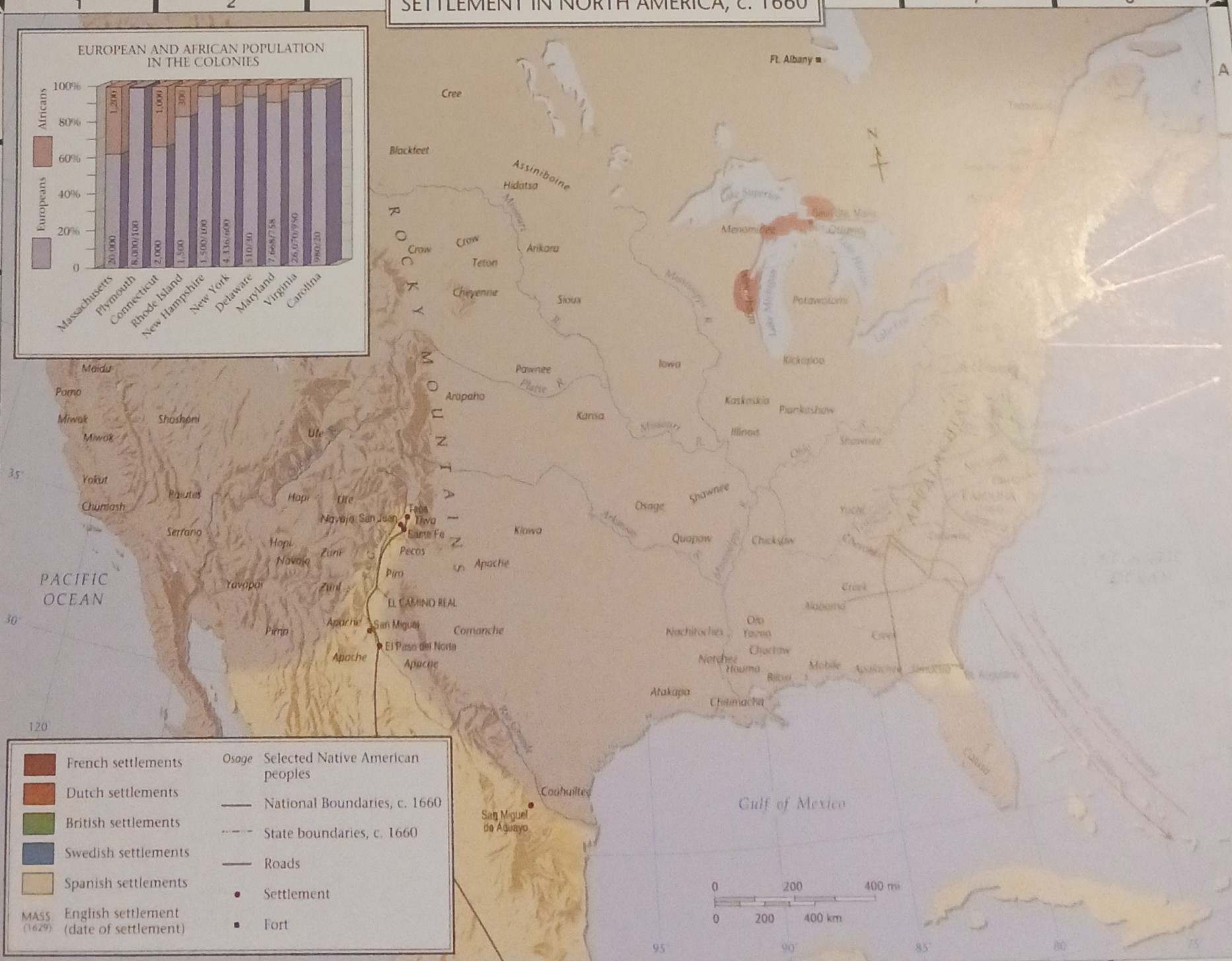
On the eve of European contact, Native American tribes spread across the North American continent and encompassed a range of different cultures, languages, and religious beliefs. Trade goods exchanged between these diverse groups furnished avenues of communication across the continent. What geographic features presented barriers to trade according to this map?

VOYAGES OF EXPLORATION AND COLONIAL EMPIRES, c. 1700

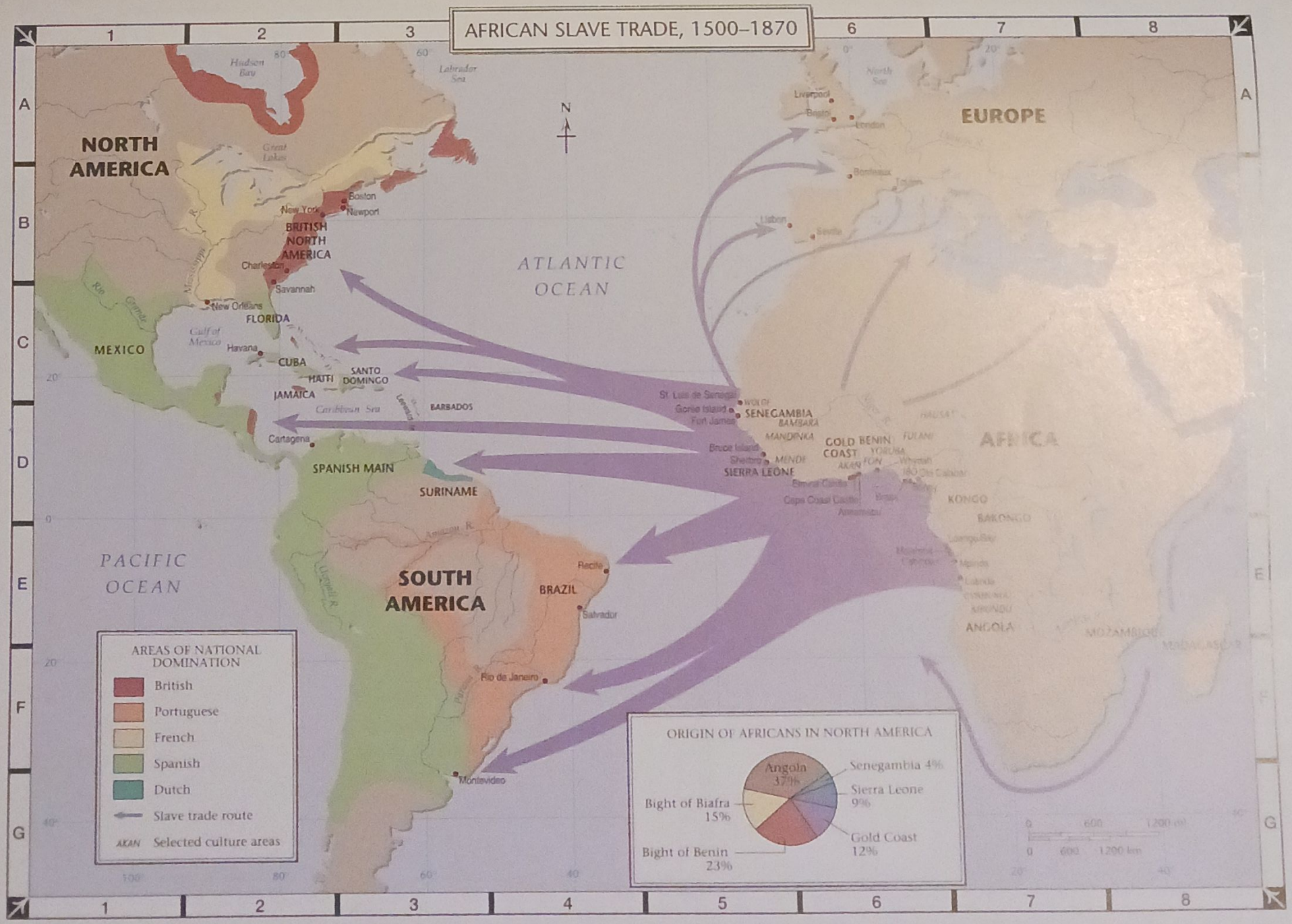


The Spanish were the first to establish a colonial empire in the New World, with missions and settlements extending north into the American Southwest, and south into present-day Chile. In the process, Spain subdued two major Native American empires, the Aztec and the Inca, and outflanked from their European rival, Portugal. Over how many degrees of latitude did the Spanish Empire extend in the Americas? What problems might this have led to in governing such diverse and expansive lands?

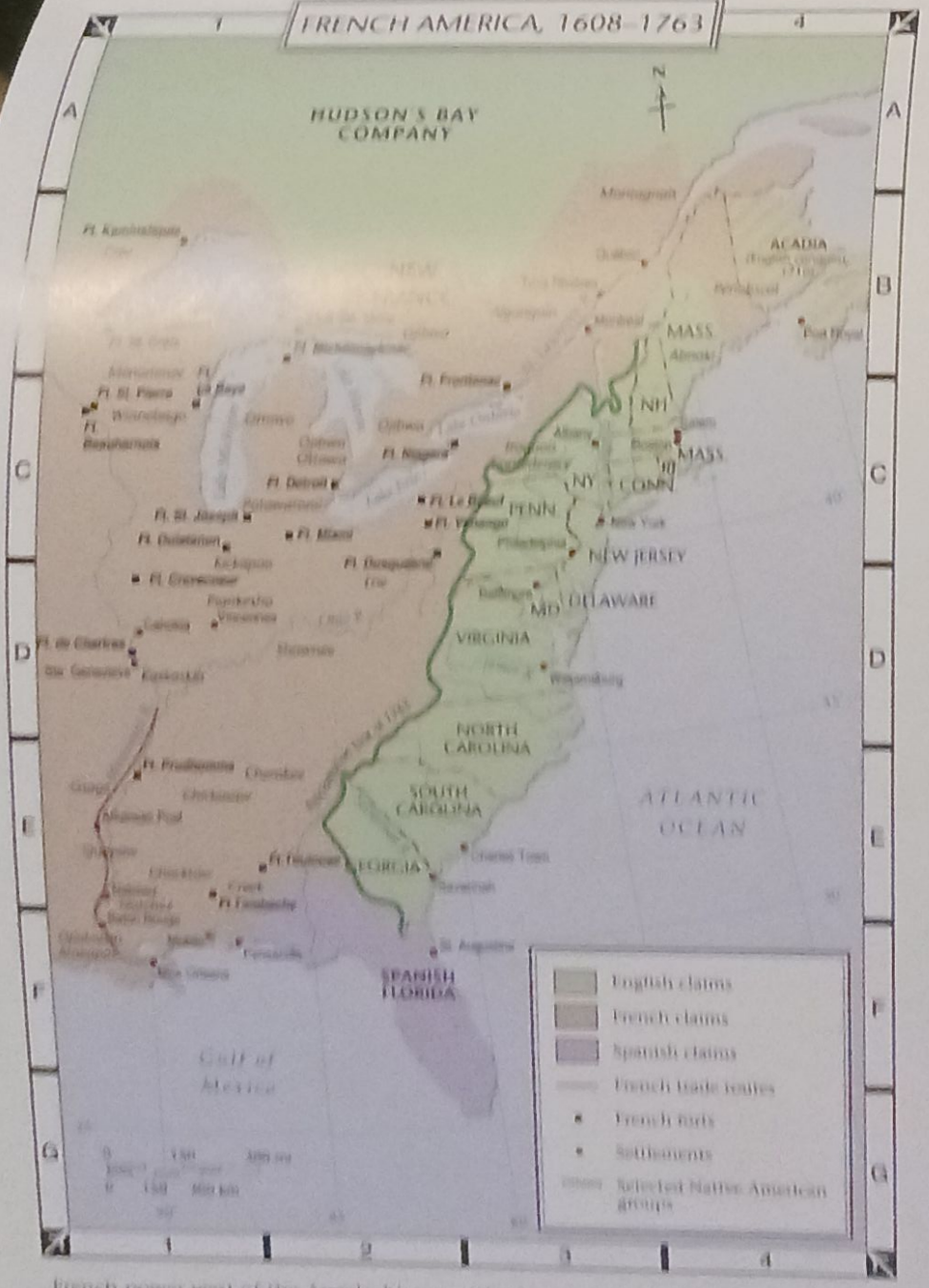
SETTLEMENT IN NORTH AMERICA, c. 1660



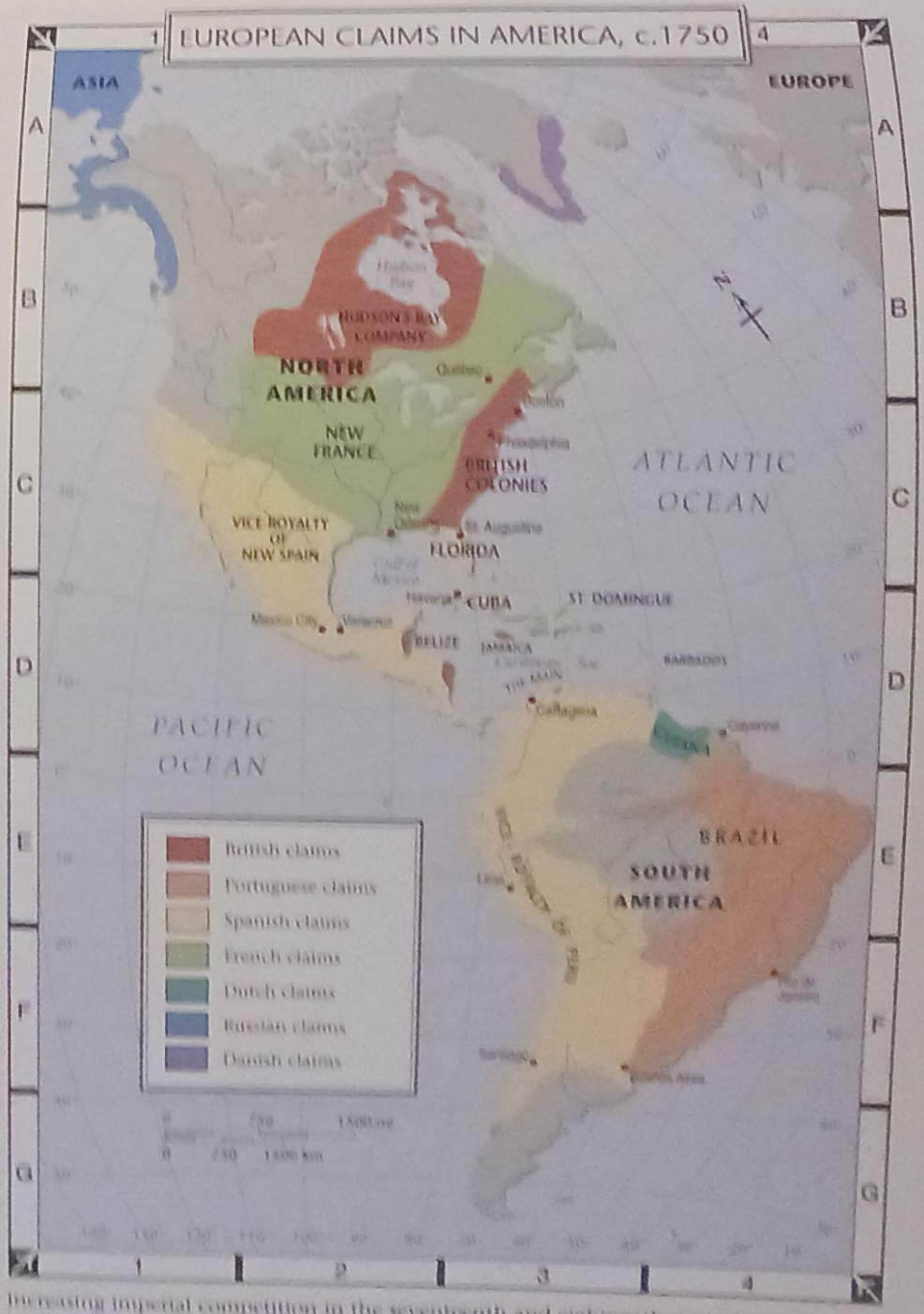
Population density for Native American groups at about 1500 is difficult to estimate because there is vigorous disagreement among scholars about the size of America's population just before European contact. There is also much uncertainty about the area that should be assigned to each culture area. Does this map suggest that distance from the points of European contact was also an important variable in determining population loss in various culture areas?



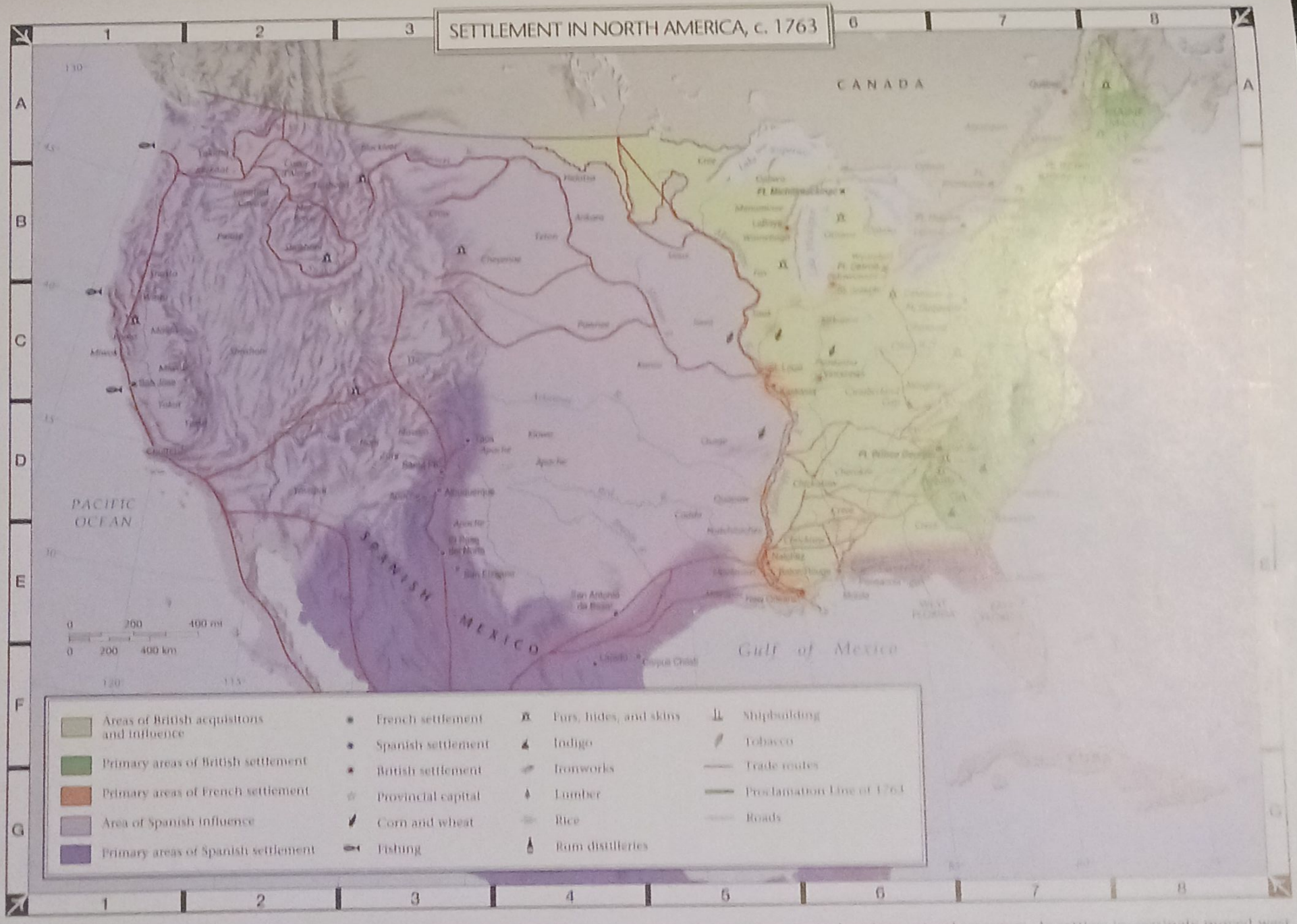
After claiming territories in the New World, Europeans looked for profitable ways of developing their holdings. In North America, landowners growing popular cash crops such as tobacco, rice, and indigo turned to the use of African slaves. Millions of Africans from diverse cultural groups were sold to slave traders on the West Coast of Africa between 1600 and 1800. In all, some 400,000 Africans survived the voyage to British North America during the duration of the slave trade; millions more were transported to plantations in Latin America and the Caribbean. Did the African diaspora have a similar effect on the various regions of the Americas?



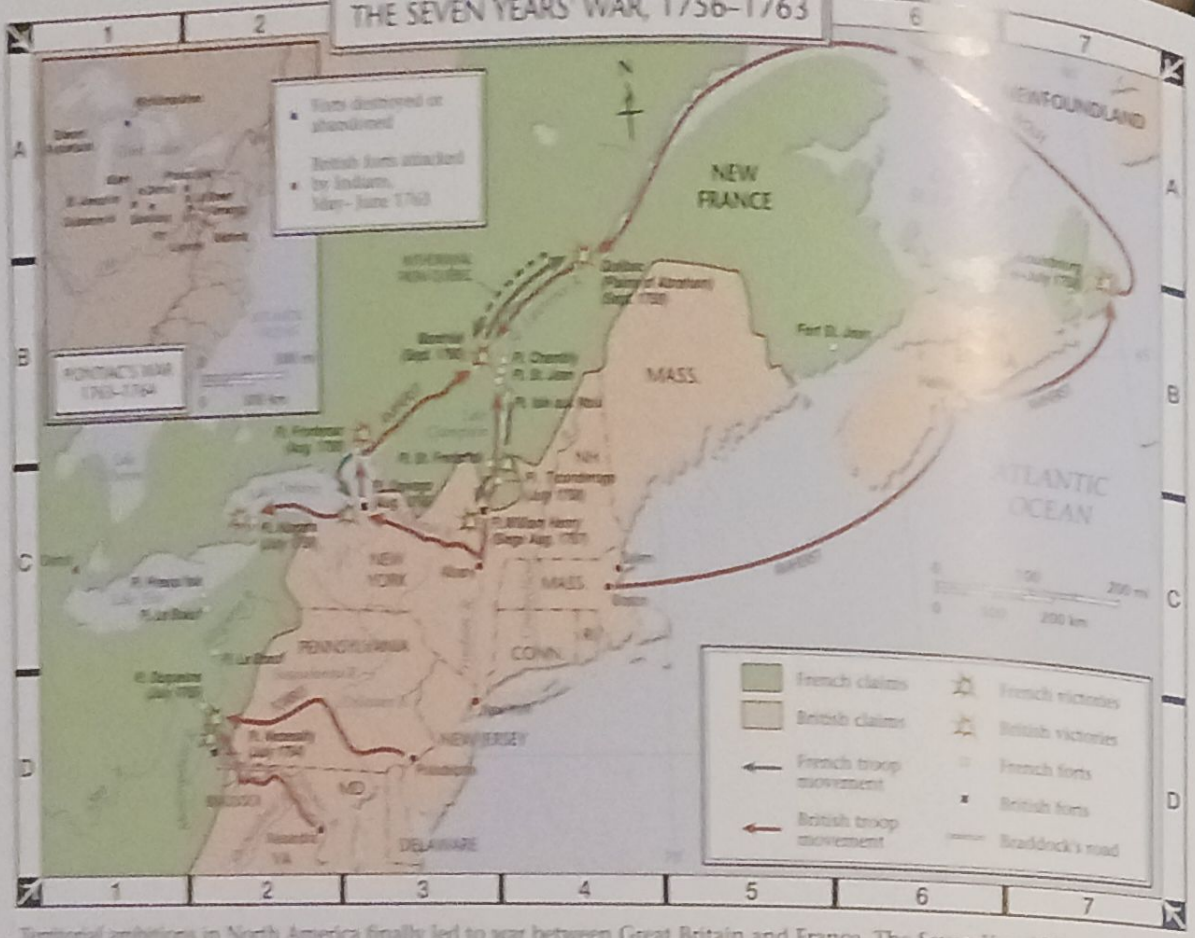
French power west of the Appalachians revolved around their trading posts. Along the St. Lawrence River and in the lower Mississippi River, they had a more permanent presence, possessing strong administrative, agricultural, and military institutions. Why were there no French forts or settlements on the Ohio River?



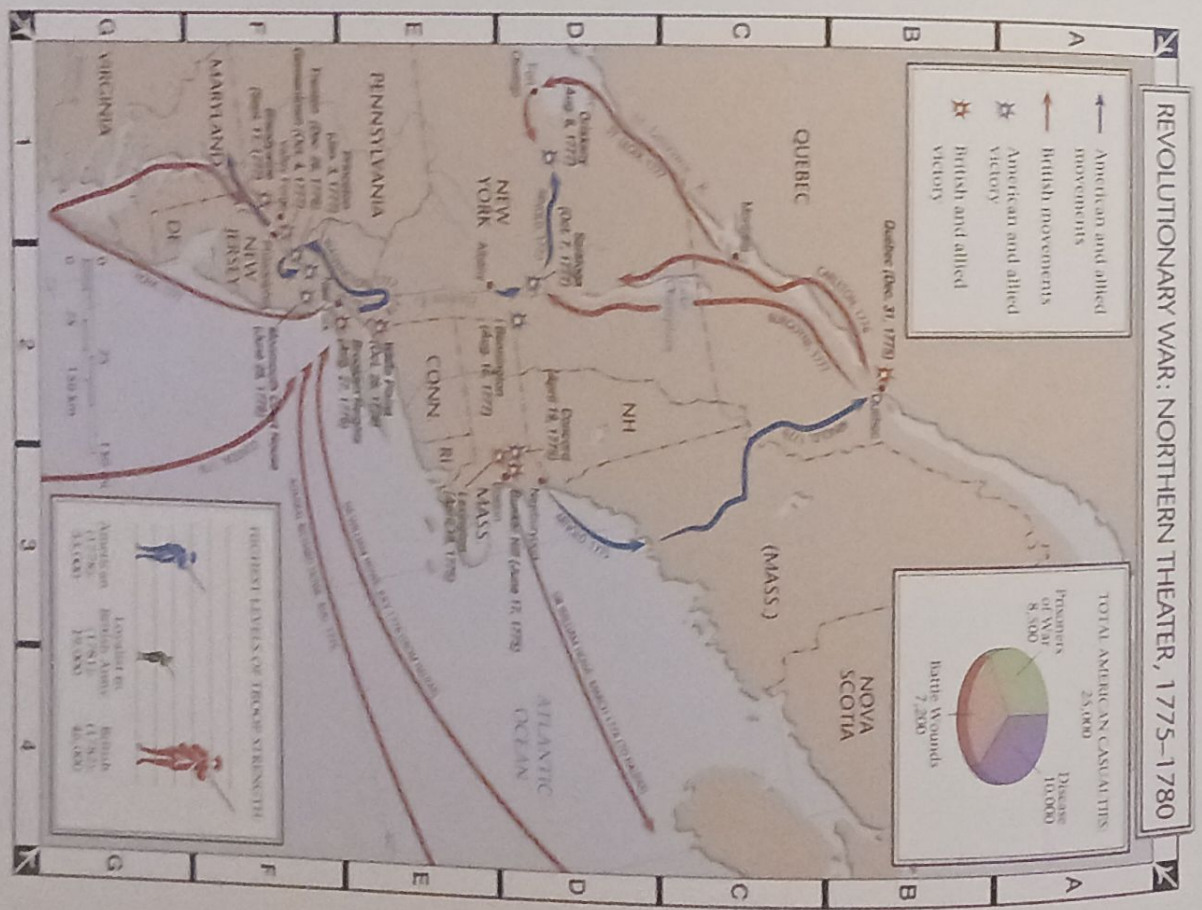
Increasing imperial competition in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries gave rise to territorial disputes. Claims were often inexact and contradictory, based on an imperfect knowledge of geography and exaggerated notions of the extent of their holdings. Settlers in North America recognized Native American land ownership, but they nevertheless claimed sovereignty over Indian lands. How does this map, portraying imperial claims two and a half centuries ago, compare to the national languages used in these areas today?



The British colonies of North America prospered in the eighteenth century, basing their economy on the region's abundant natural resources. As settlers increasingly moved west in search of undeveloped land, the British government established the Proclamation Line of 1763 to delineate lands reserved for the Native Americans. Both the French and the Spanish had established a few settlements across the Appalachian Mountains focusing primarily on the fur trade. Which empire seems to be more extended in North America in 1763, Spain or Britain? Why?

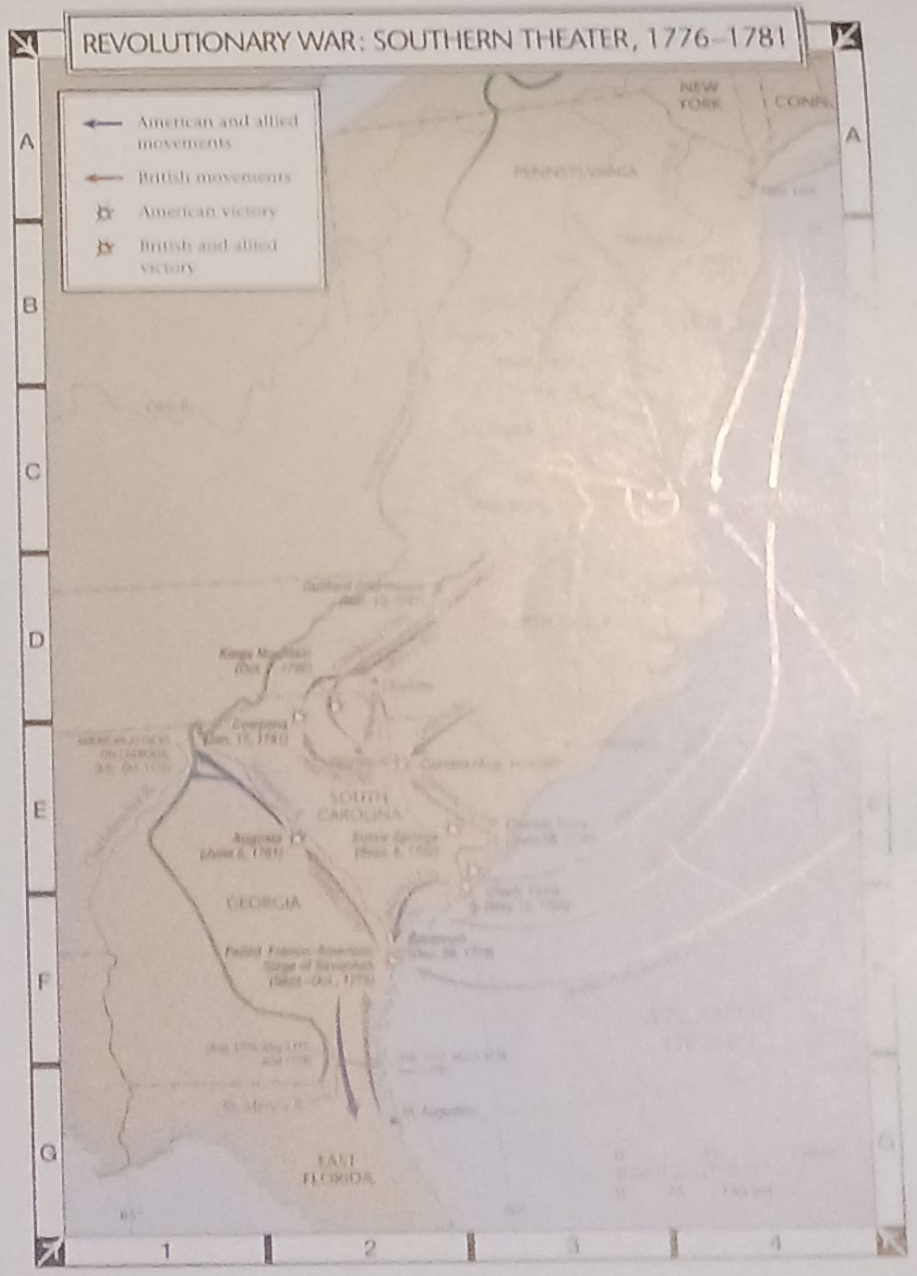


Territorial ambitions in North America finally led to war between Great Britain and France. The Seven Years' War is often remembered in America as the French and Indian War, as many Native Americans sided with the French. Despite initial defeats, the British troops and American colonists won decisive victories on the St. Lawrence River. Peace was declared in 1763 but conflict continued in the West where Native American tribes inspired by Pontiac attacked British forts and settlements. The axis between Quebec and Montreal has been compared to a trunk which supported the great crown of France's empire, extending from New Orleans to Lake Superior. How does this observation explain British strategy in 1759-1760?

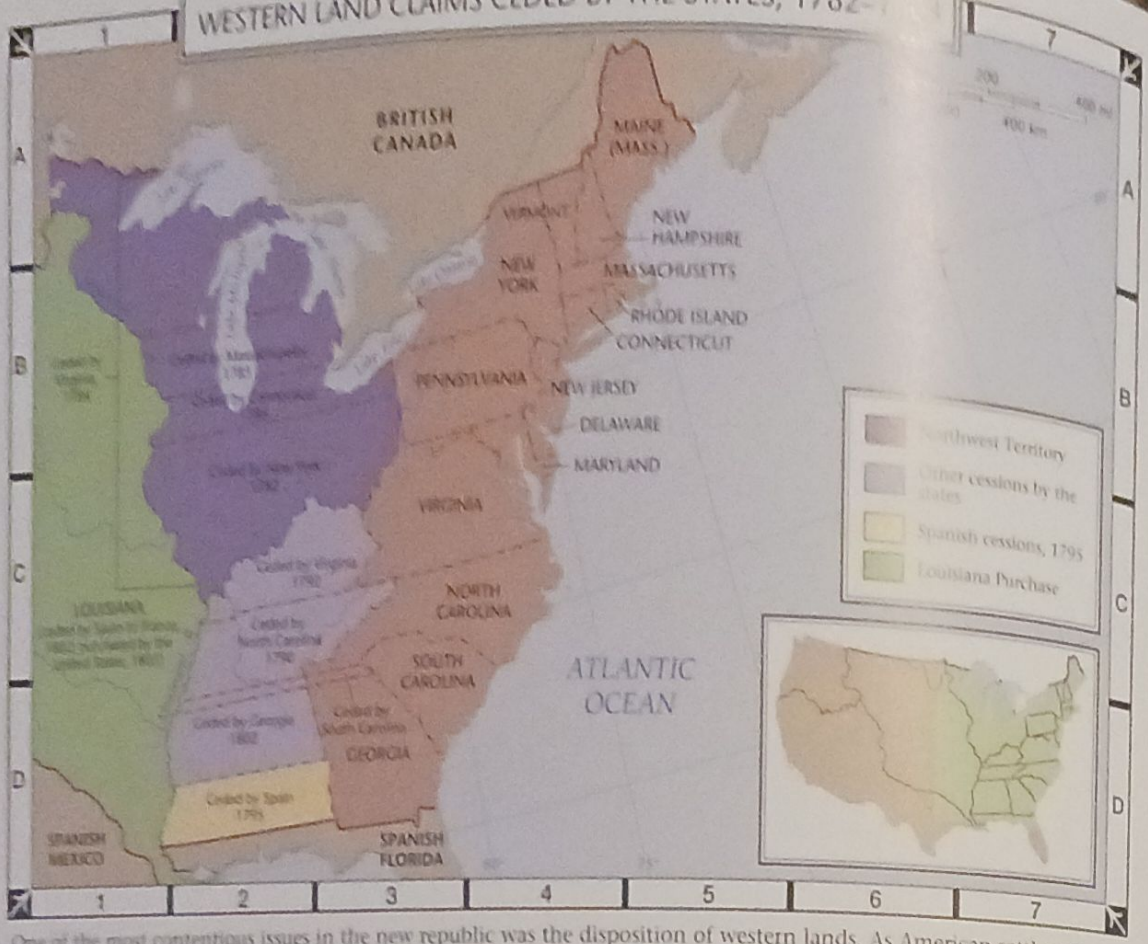


In the years following the initial skirmishes at Lexington and Concord, American colonists confronted the British in a series of battles between New York and the Chesapeake. The powerful British army inflicted heavy casualties on the undermanned and undersupplied Continental army. What would have been the best strategy for General Washington to adopt in these circumstances?

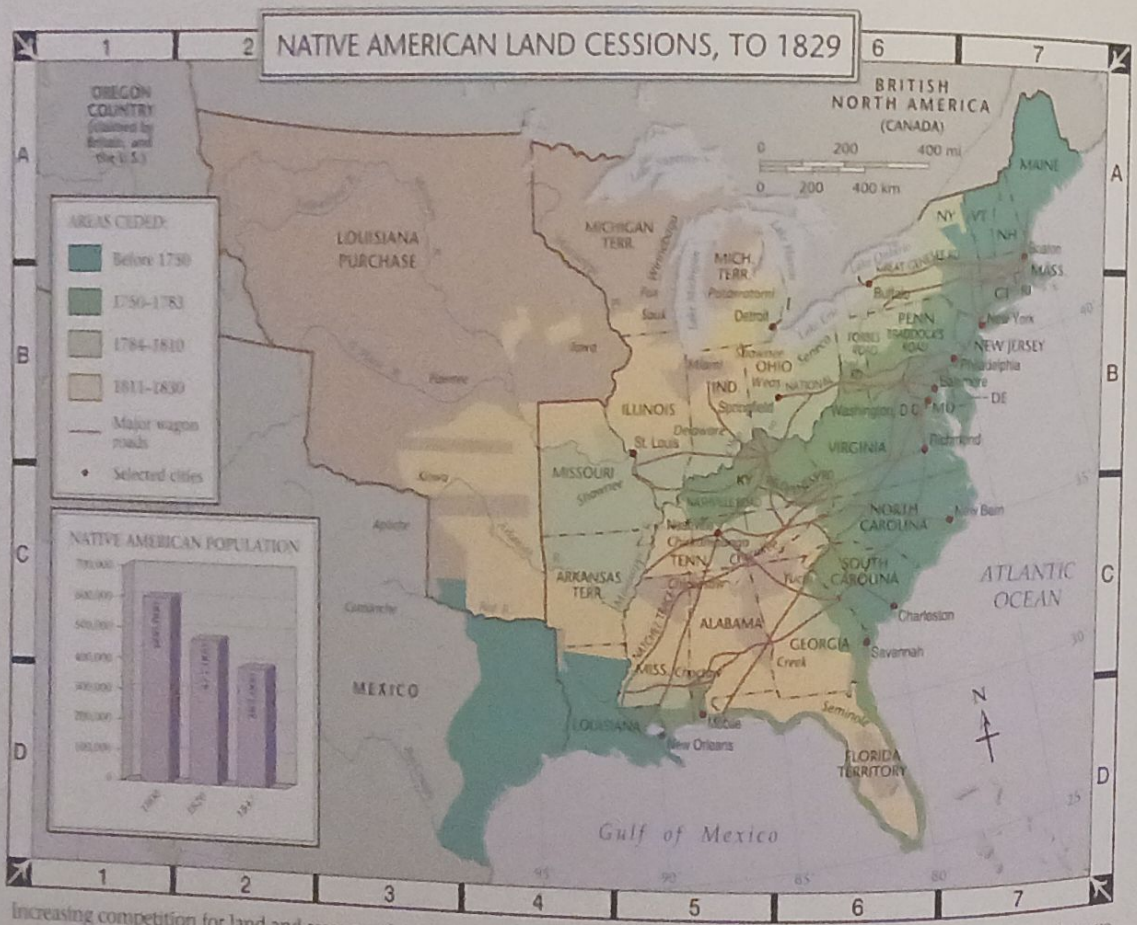
Though independent of British rule, the United States was not free from pressure from European nations. Hemmed in by British Canada to the north and Spanish claims to south and west, America struggled to establish its boundaries. Which boundary of the United States was most secure in 1783?



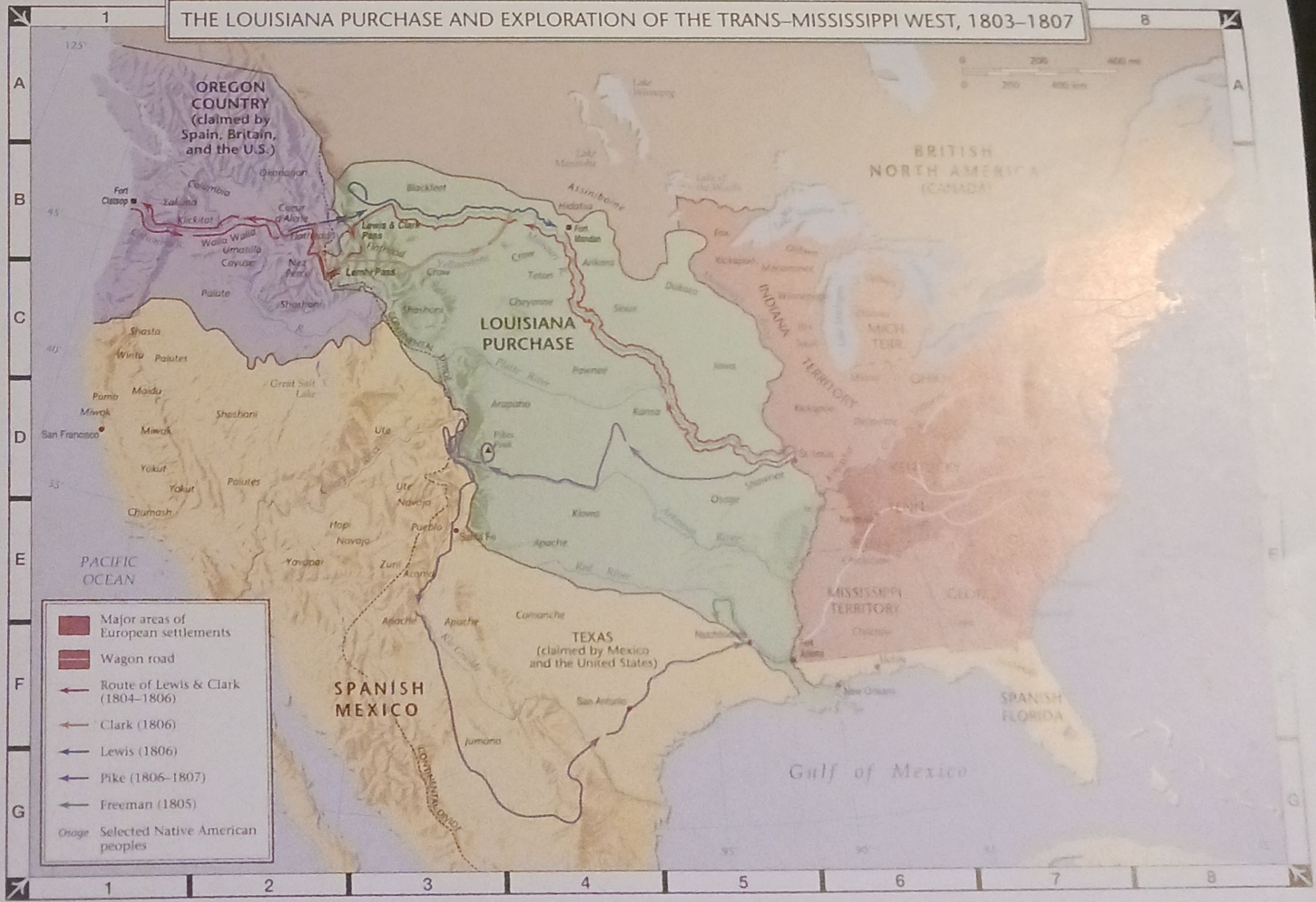
The American Revolution in South Carolina and Georgia became a brutal civil war, where competing British and American governments were unable to maintain authority over militias, bandits, and a vicious cycle of vengeance among rebels and loyalists. Trace the route taken by the army commanded by Cornwallis in 1780-1781. Why did it have so little to show for its long march in August, 1781?



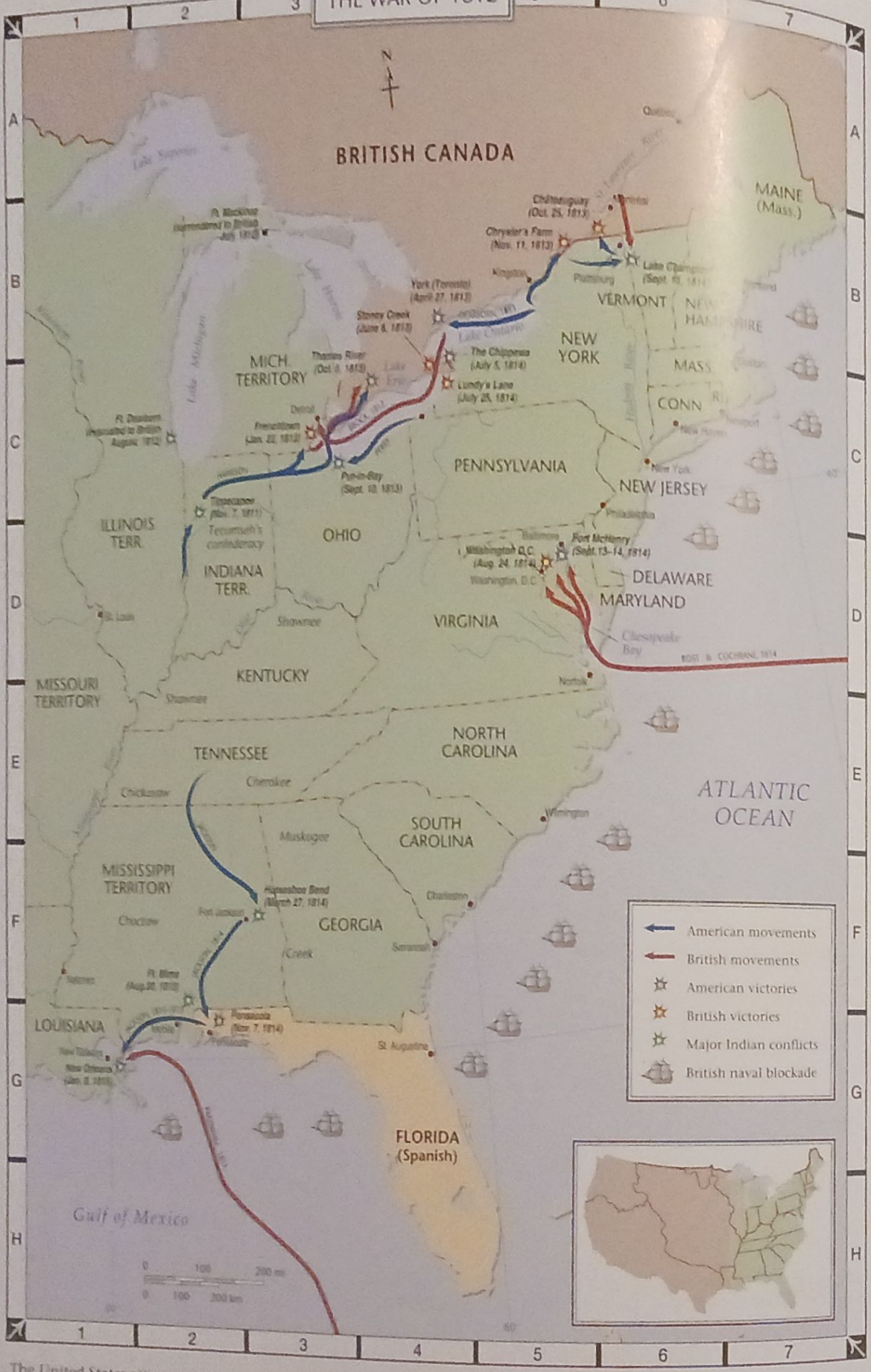
One of the most contentious issues in the new republic was the disposition of western lands. As American settlers started to move West, various states claimed territory that extended to the Mississippi River. After some maneuvering between politicians and land speculators, all the states ceded their lands to Congress. Then, in 1803, the nation doubled in size by the Louisiana Purchase. Why is the Native American presence not indicated on this map?



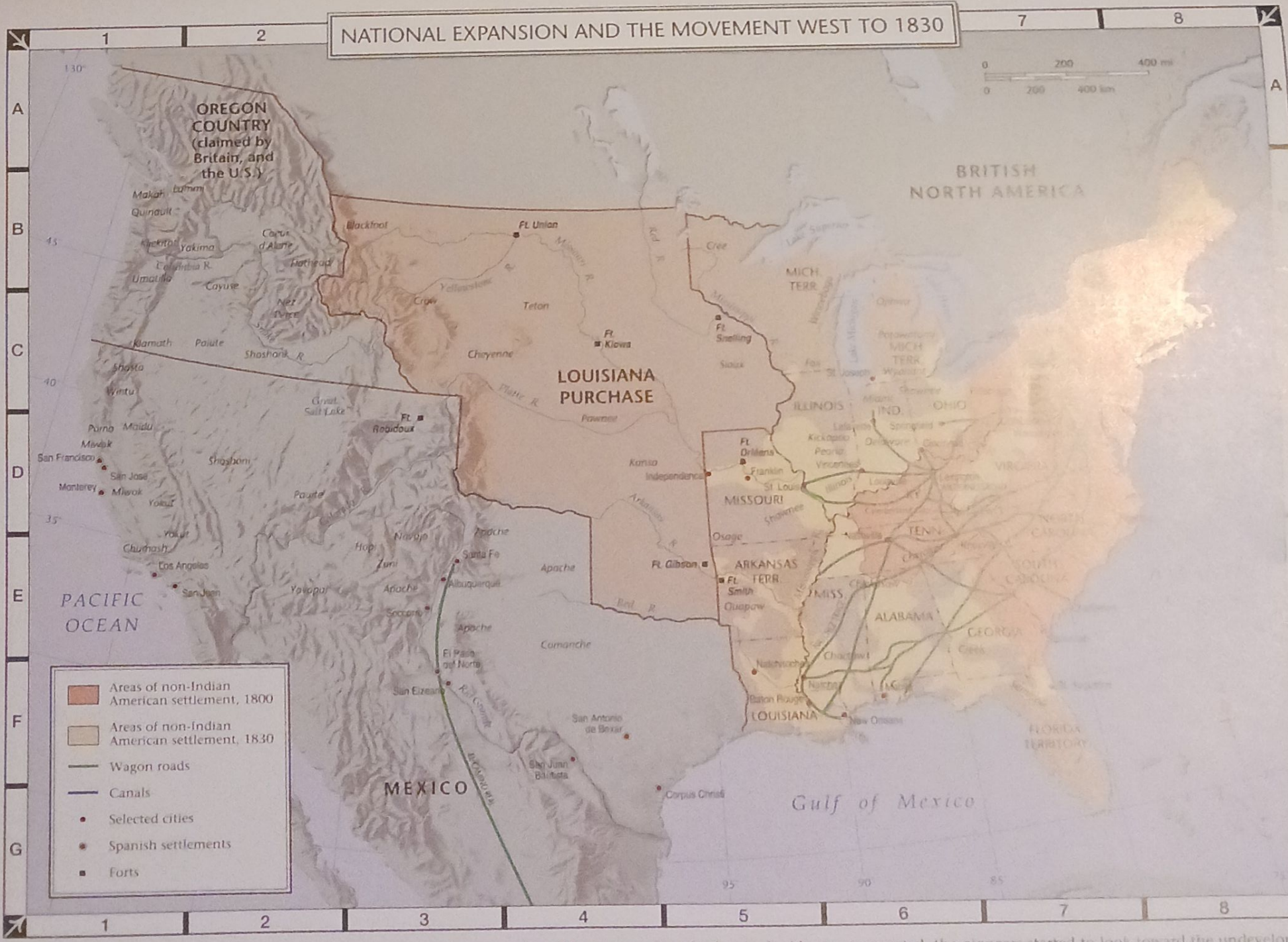
Increasing competition for land and resources forced many Native American tribes to cede their traditional homelands and move farther West. The depletion of game and other resources, along with epidemic diseases and warfare, also took their toll on Native American populations. How does the development of the road network correlate with the date of the land cessions?



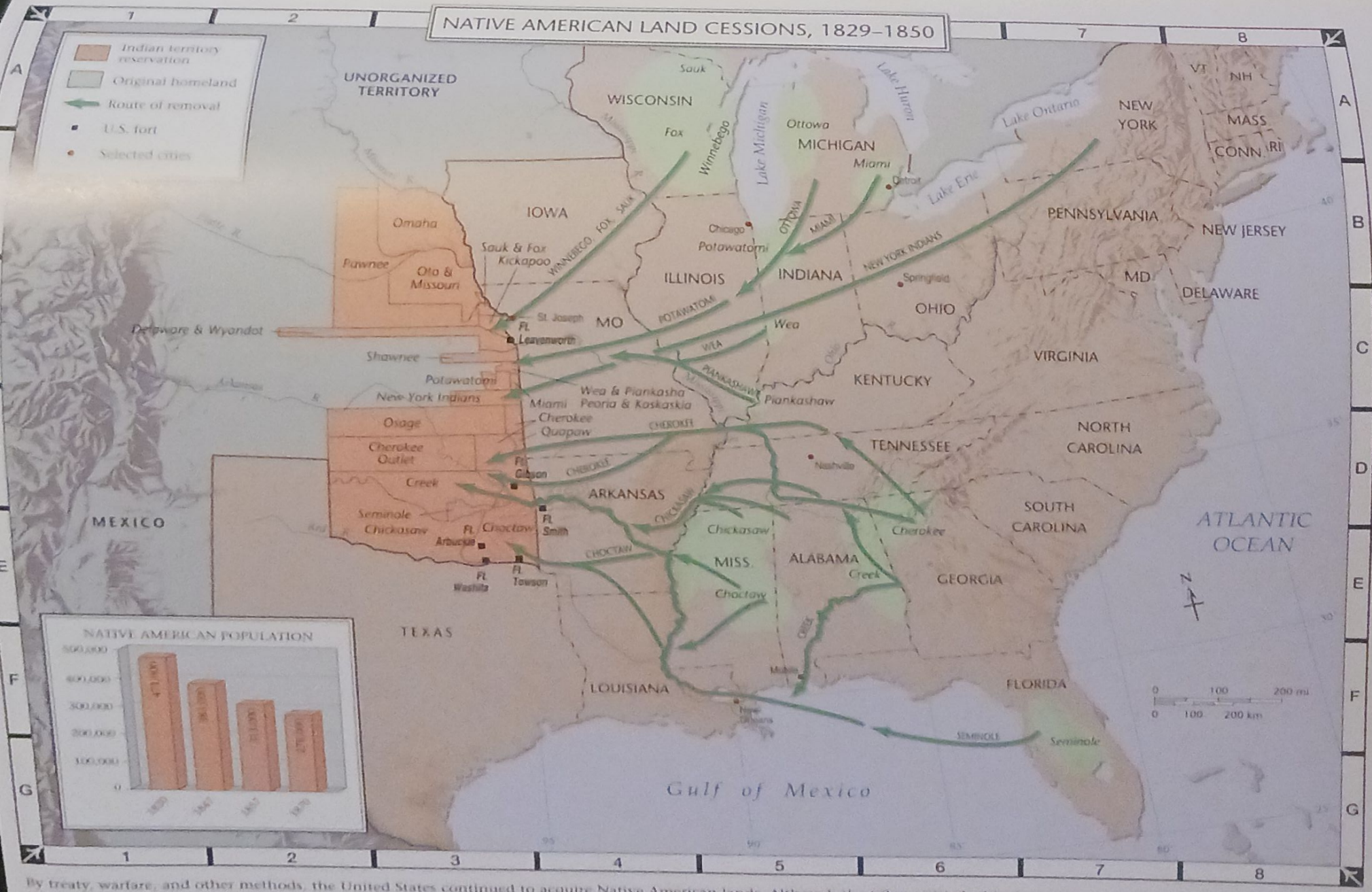
The United States purchased the Louisiana Territory from France in 1803, doubling the size of the new nation. The federal government commissioned three expeditions to explore this region: Merriwether Lewis and William Clark's party headed up the Missouri River and traversed the northwest; Zebulon Pike and his men explored the southwest, entering Spanish territory in Mexico; and Thomas Freeman's group followed the Red River from the Mississippi river into Texas. Which geographical feature is suggested by the "islands" of sparse settlement in the Eastern United States?



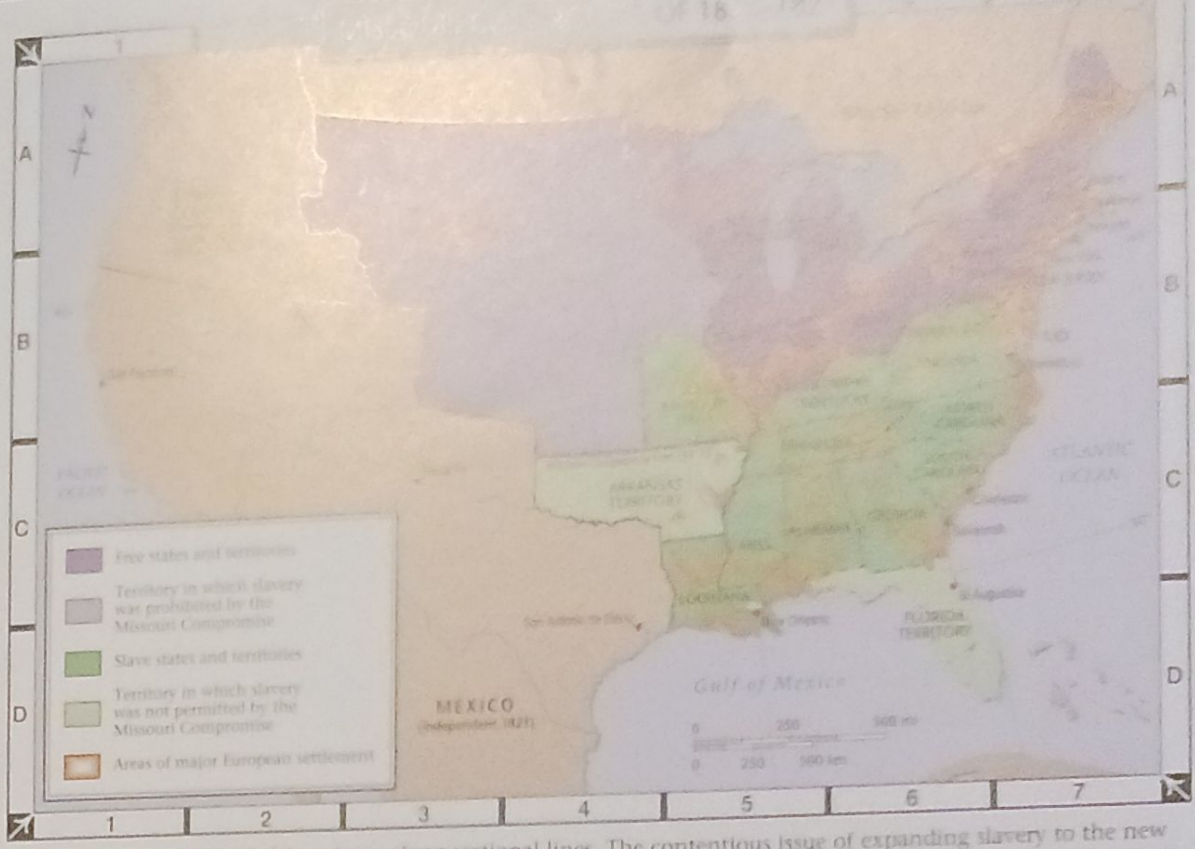
The United States attempted to stay neutral in the European wars of the early nineteenth century. However, frustration with British interference with American shipping, coupled with the belief that England was supplying western Indian peoples with weapons, finally led to war. The fledgling nation was ill-equipped to take on a global power such as England, and suffered defeats in Canada, a British blockade of the coast, and the humiliation of having the nation's capital burned. A few weeks later, American forces held off a British attack at Fort McHenry, a victory memorialized in "The Star Spangled Banner." The American victory at Battle of New Orleans actually took place two weeks after the peace treaty had been signed. Why was so much of this war fought in coastal areas or along the Great Lakes?



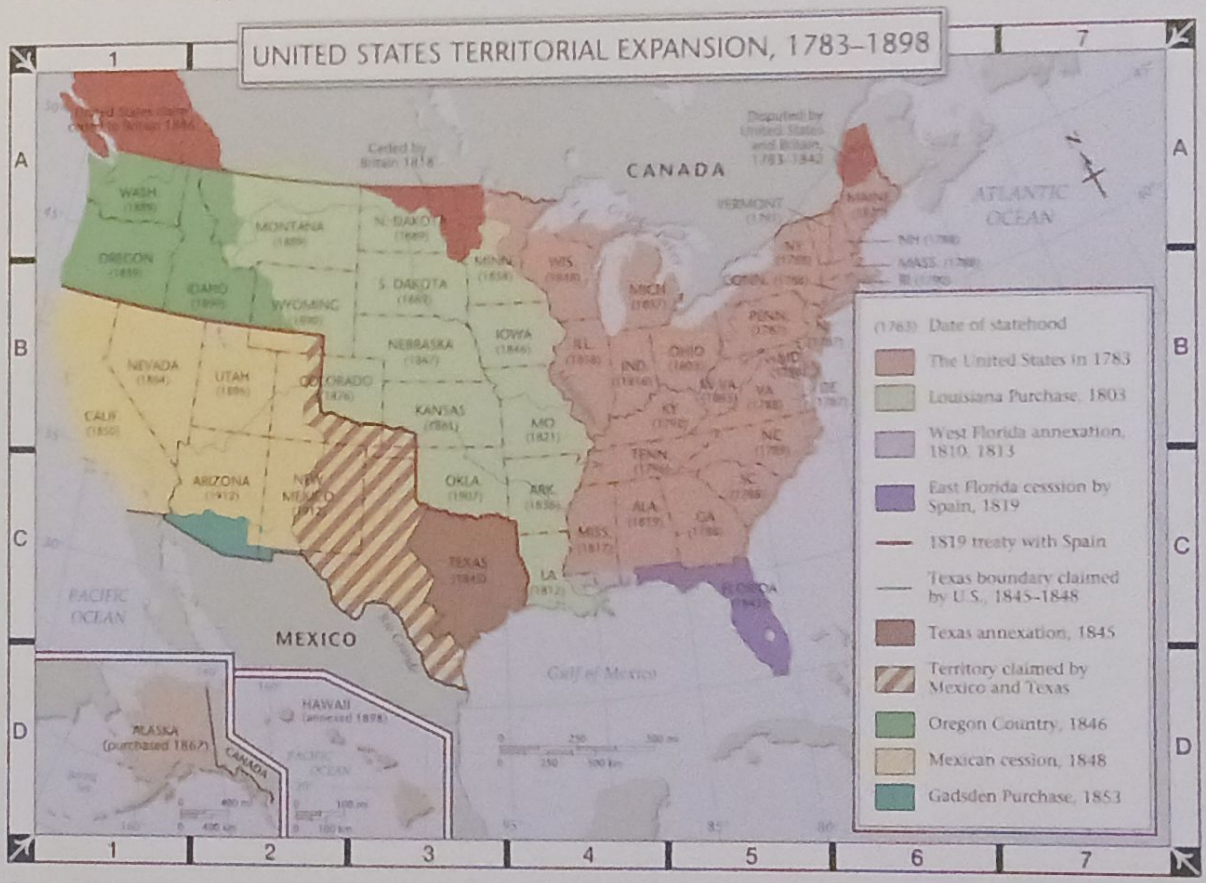
American settlement of the West began with the crossing of the Appalachian Mountains; after this barrier had been surmounted, the pioneers started to look toward the undeveloped land of the Louisiana Purchase. What role do rivers play in American settlement west of the Mississippi in 1830?



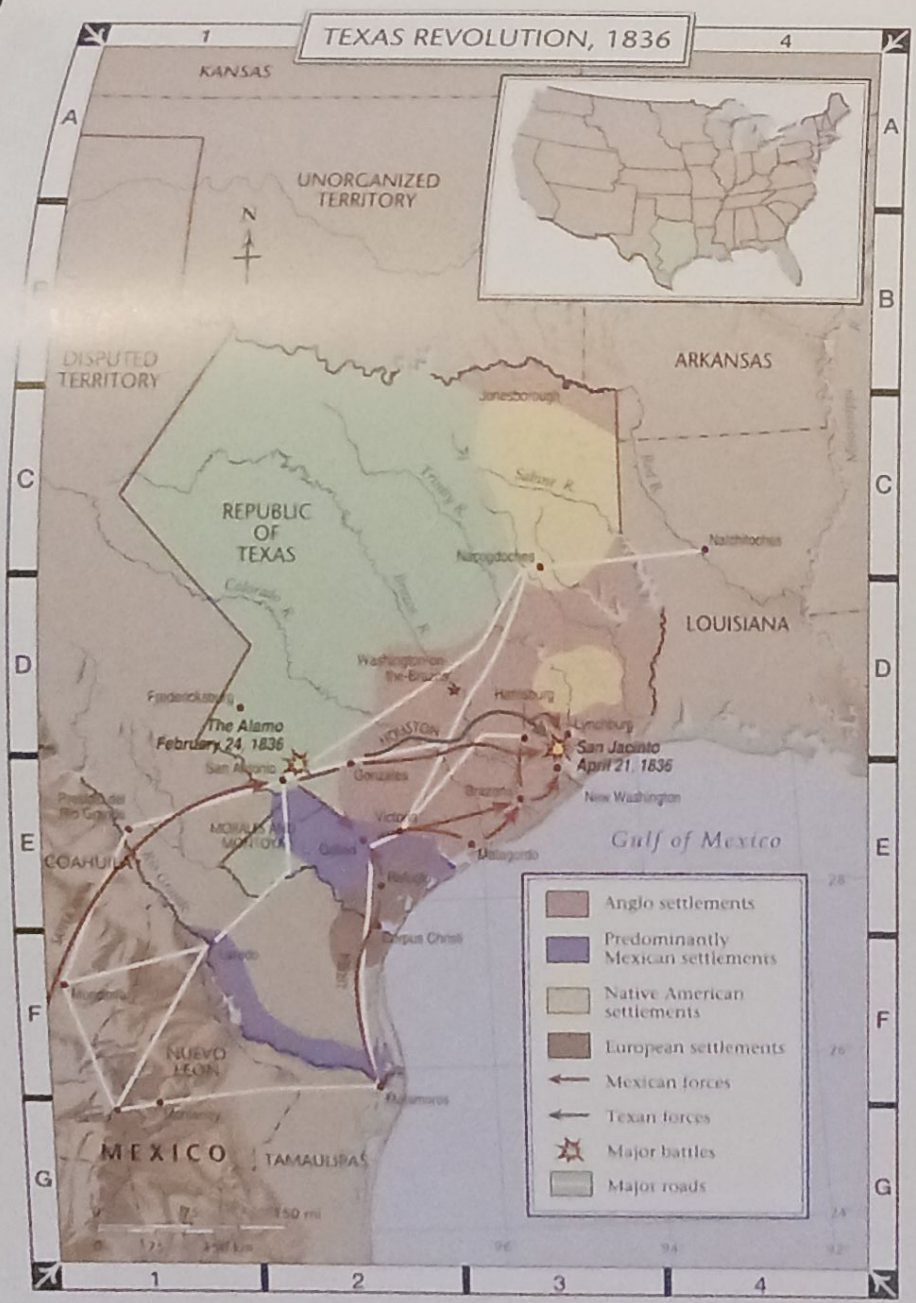
By treaty, warfare, and other methods, the United States continued to acquire Native American lands. Although the tribes resisted white incursions, many were forcibly removed to reservations in the west. Why were the Missouri River and the 95th meridian used for the boundary of so many reservations?



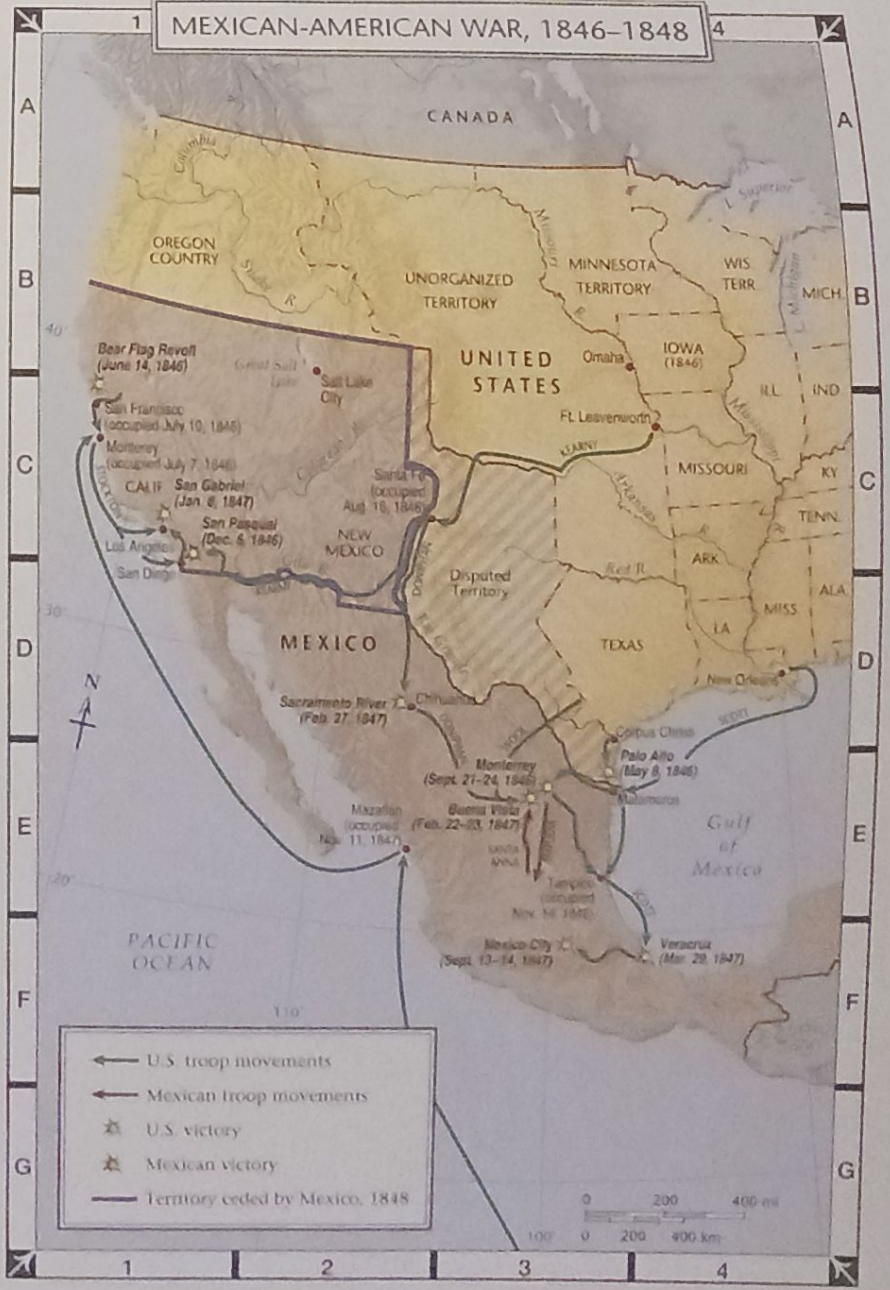
Slavery increasingly divided Americans along sectional lines. The contentious issue of expanding slavery to the new territories was temporarily resolved by the compromise of 1820-1821, in which Missouri was admitted as a slave state and Maine as a free state, thus preserving an even balance in the U.S. Senate. Territory south of the compromise line of 36° 30′ was declared open to slavery; to the north, slavery was prohibited. If the territorial expansion of the United States had stopped in 1821, would the Missouri Compromise have favored the North or the South?



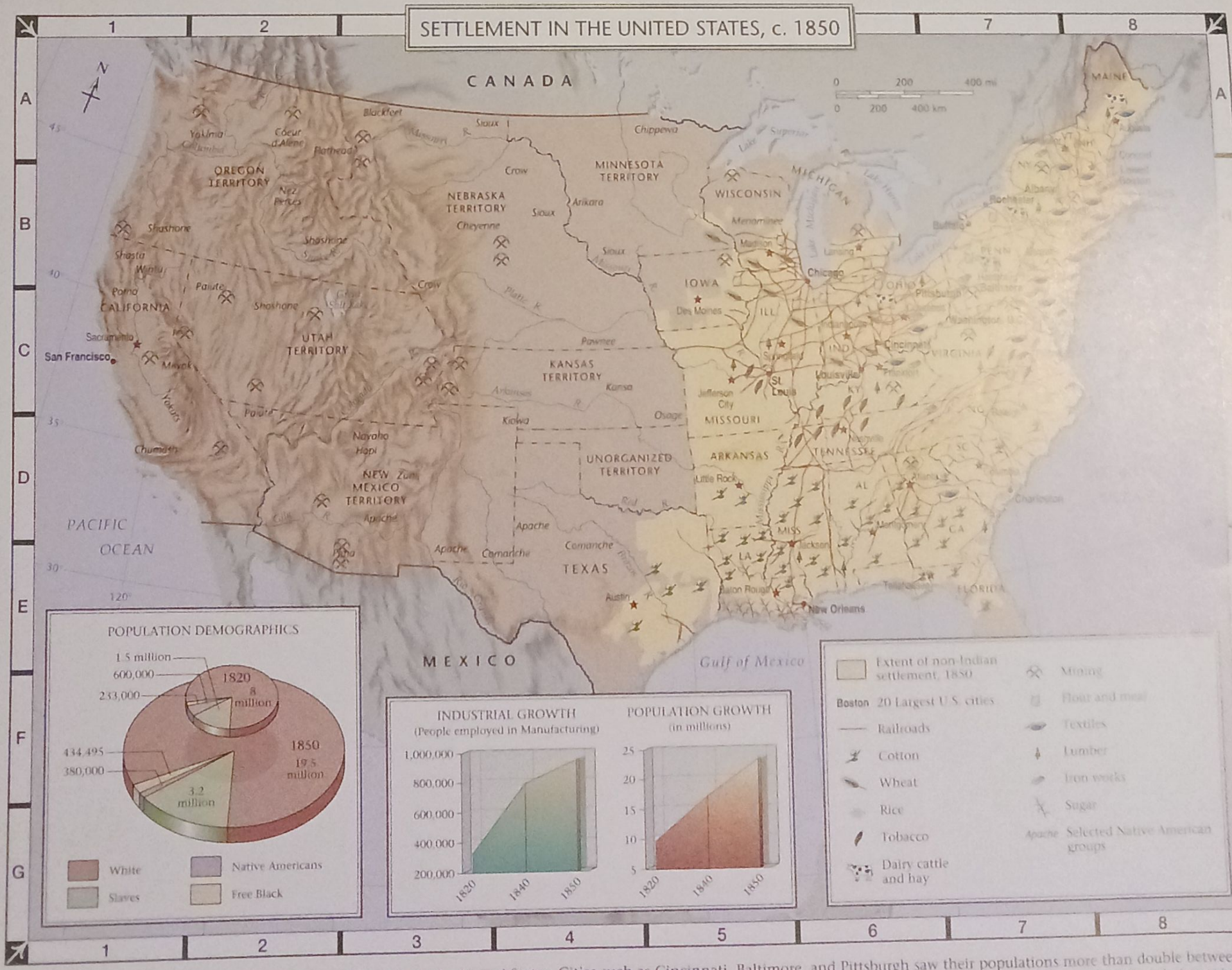
In the nineteenth century, the term "manifest destiny" expressed the belief that the United States was fated to extend across the continent. Toward that end, America had acquired Florida from Spain; purchased the Louisiana territory from France; established its northern boundary and gained Oregon from Great Britain; and taken much of the southwest from Mexico through war and purchase. By the end of the century, the nation had extended even further by purchasing Alaska from Russia, annexing the Hawaiian Islands and acquiring Spanish territories in the Caribbean and the Philippines. The United States shares a common boundary with only two other nations. Why is this significant?



During the 1820s immigrants from the United States and Europe were encouraged to settle in Texas, then the northernmost state of Mexico. In the 1830s, frustrated by government restrictions and concerned about the political rise of the Mexican dictator Santa Anna, the Texans revolted. Although one group, comprised of both Anglos and Tejanos suffered defeat at the Alamo, the Texans finally crushed Mexican forces led by Santa Anna at San Jacinto in 1836. Texas became an independent republic until 1845, when it became the twenty-eighth state. Note that most of Texas is drained by its own rivers, rather than by the Rio Grande or the Mississippi. How would this encourage an independent spirit?

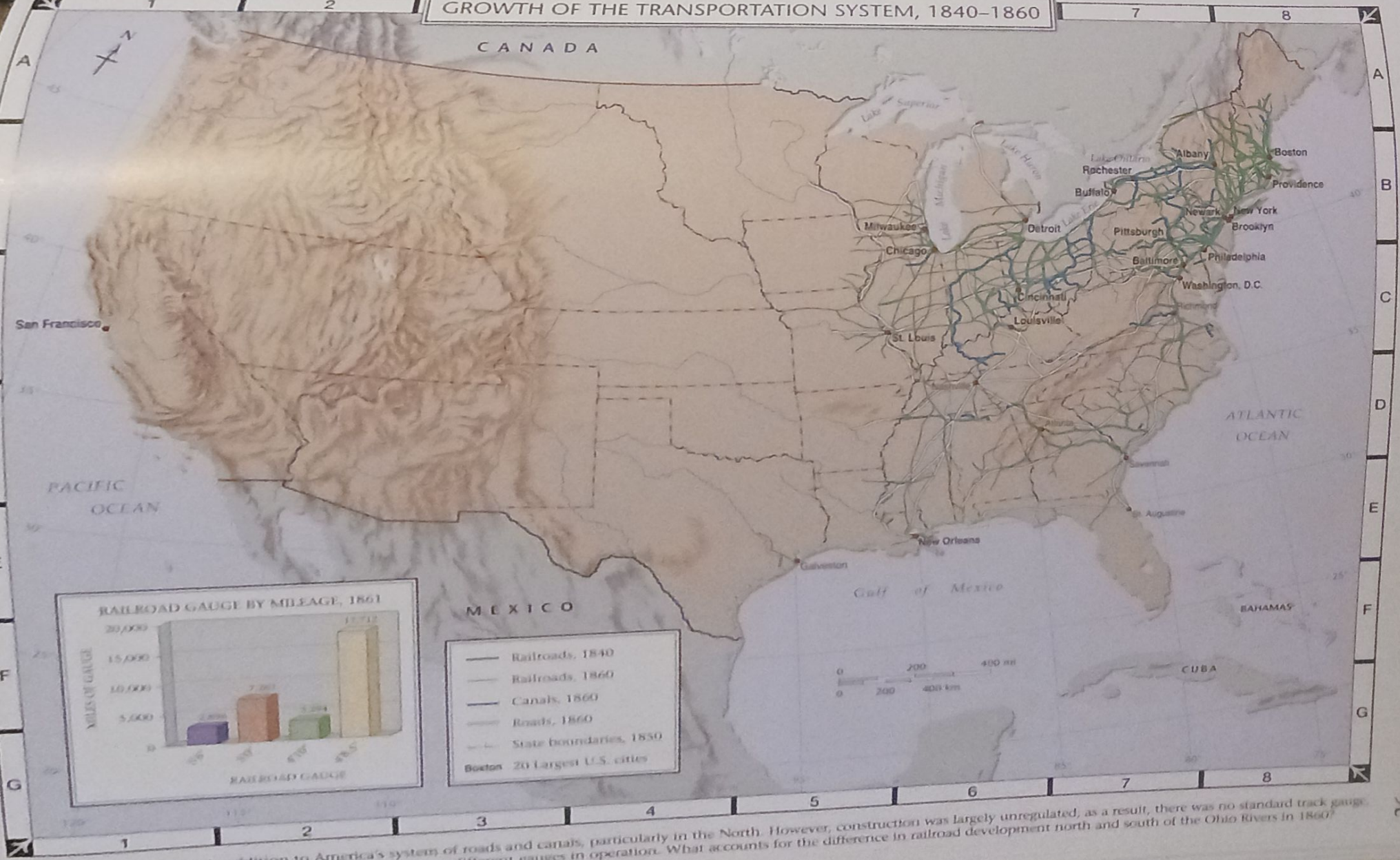


War with Mexico gained the United States the southwestern territories it had long coveted. Invading American armies won a series of victories and entered Mexico City in 1847. Other troops were dispatched across the mountains and deserts of the interior to assist American settlers in California who had revolted against the Mexican government. How did the fleet commanded by Stockton reach California?

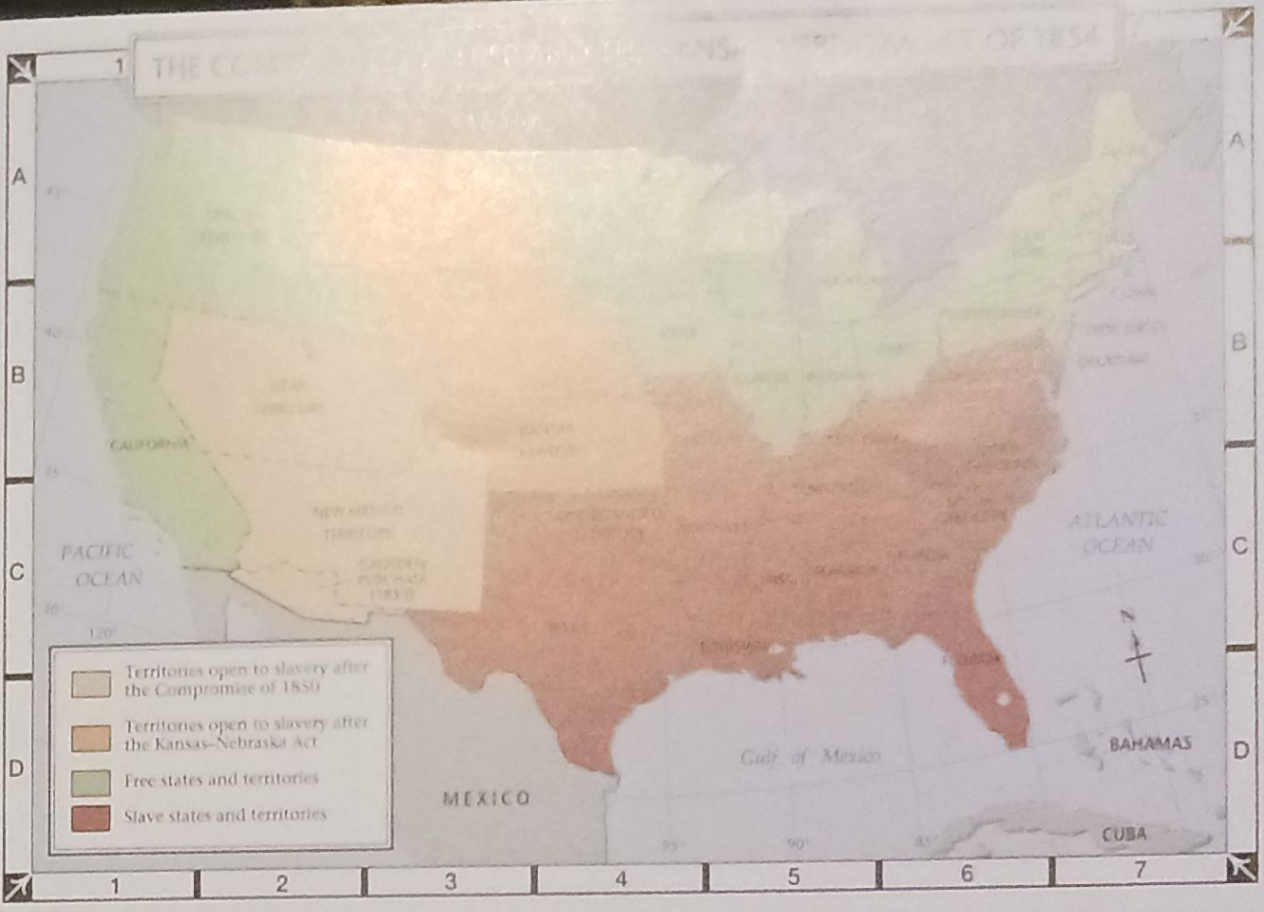


The mid-nineteenth century was a period of rapid growth in the United States. Cities such as Cincinnati, Baltimore, and Pittsburgh saw their populations more than double between 1840 and 1850. Cities in the western states showed the most remarkable growth: St. Louis nearly quadrupled in size, and Chicago's population increased sevenfold. Population gains were more modest in the South, where cotton continued to dominate the economy. Which state had the most diverse economy about 1850?

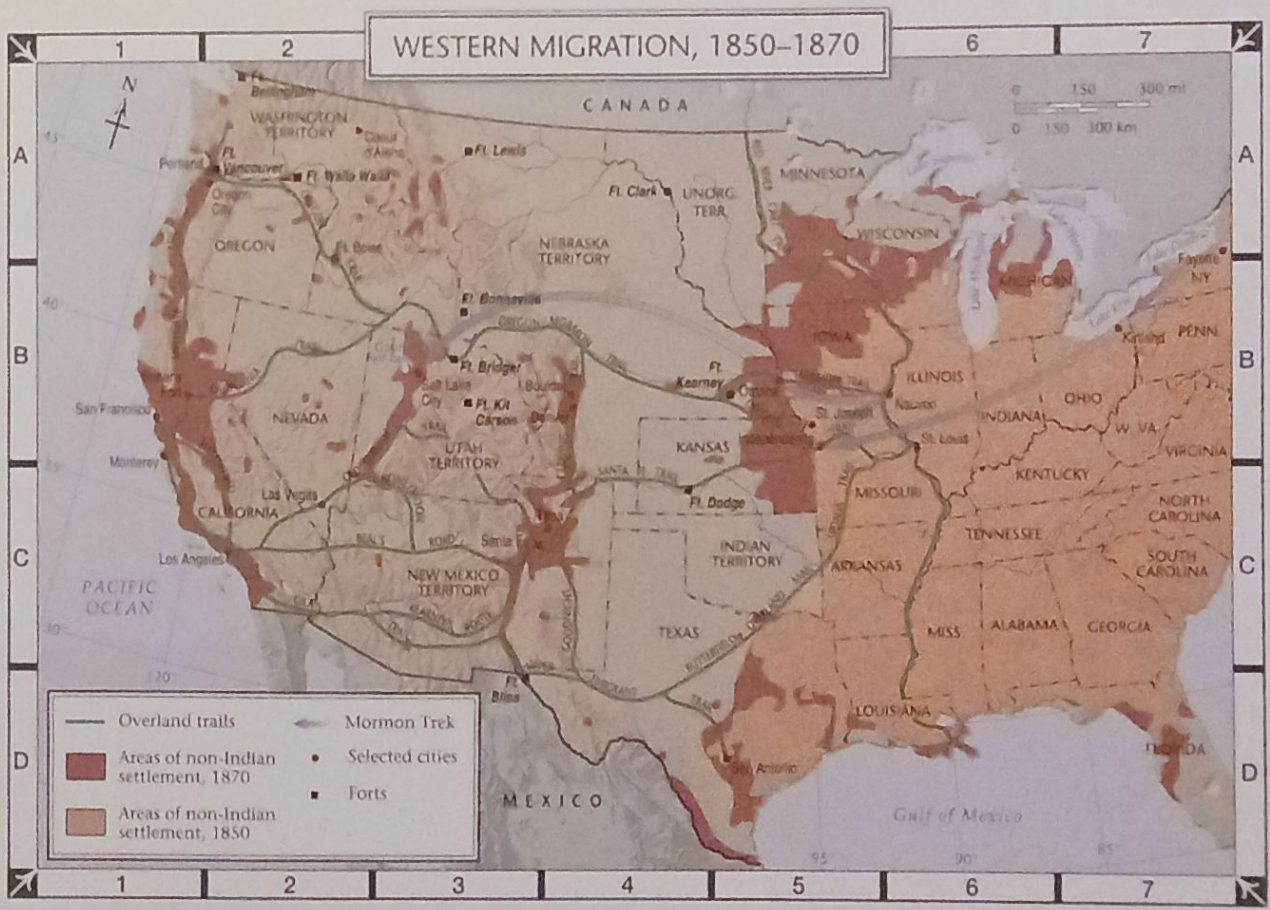
GROWTH OF THE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM, 1840–1860



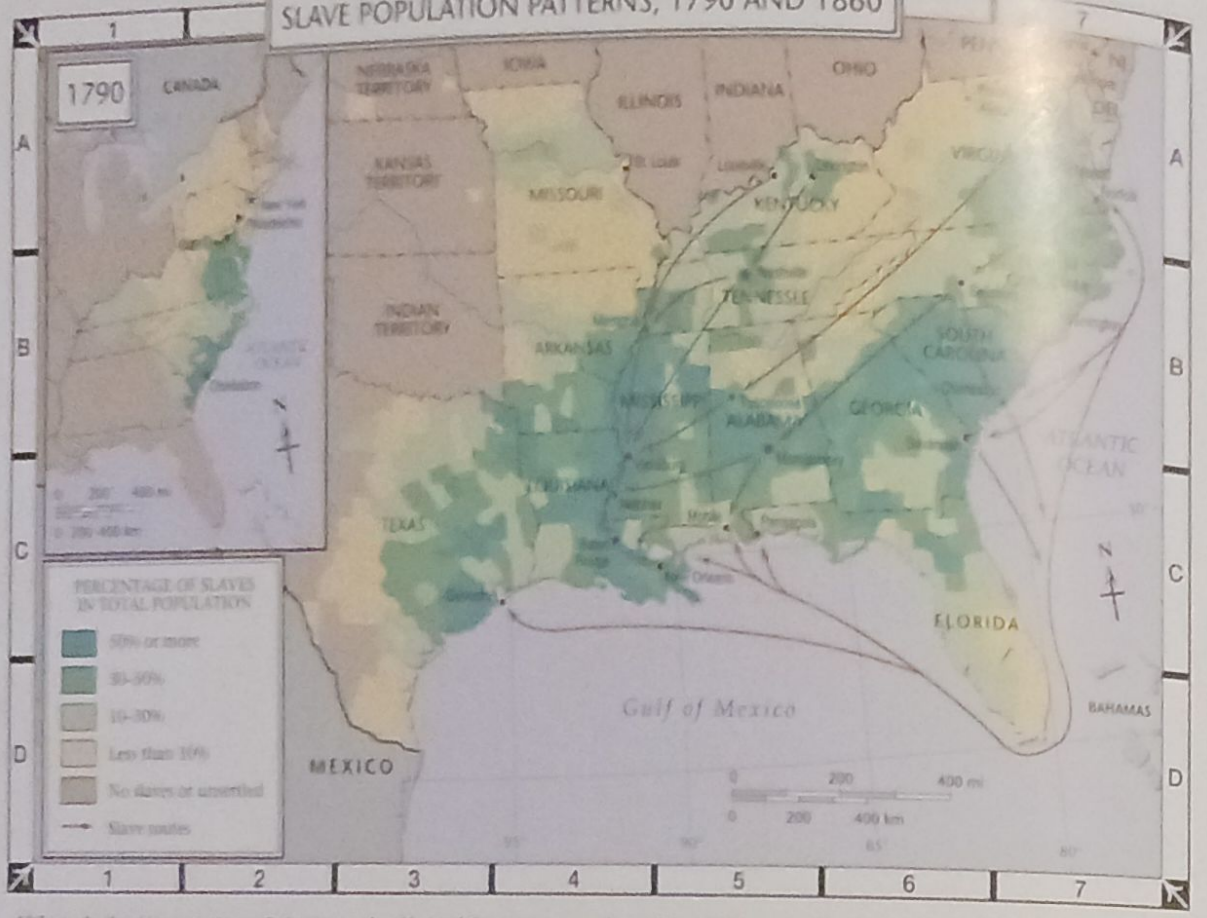
Railroads proved a valuable addition to America's system of roads and canals, particularly in the North. However, construction was largely unregulated, as a result, there was no standard track gauge and by the time of the Civil War, there were at least seven different gauges in operation. What accounts for the difference in railroad development north and south of the Ohio Rivers in 1860?



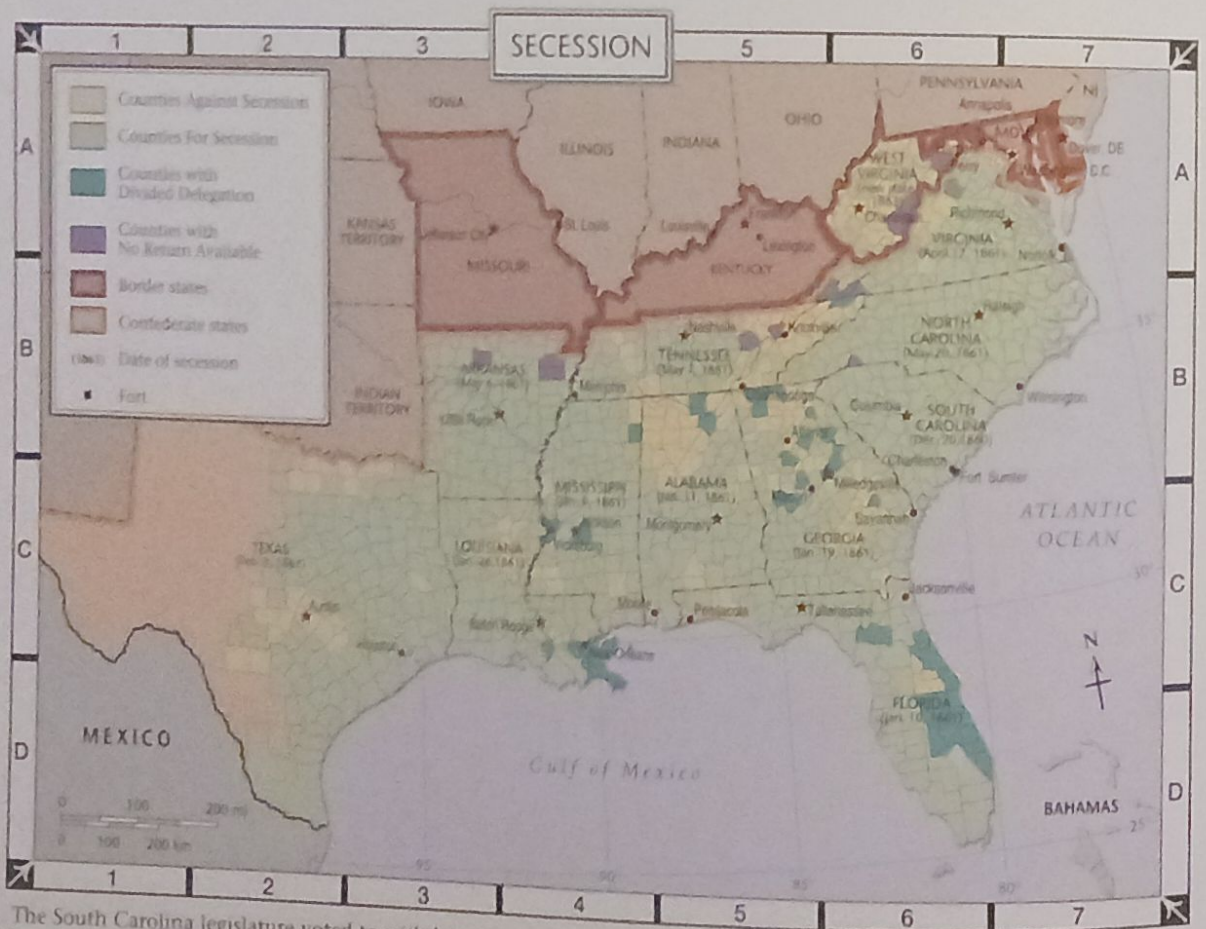
Under the terms of the Compromise of 1850, slavery was prohibited in the remaining lands from the Louisiana Purchase; however, four years later this same area was opened to slavery by the Kansas-Nebraska Act. The agreement also permitted the continuation of slavery in Washington, D.C., but abolished the slave trade there. Would the pattern of political compromise in the decades following 1820 have been different if Missouri had been admitted as a free state?



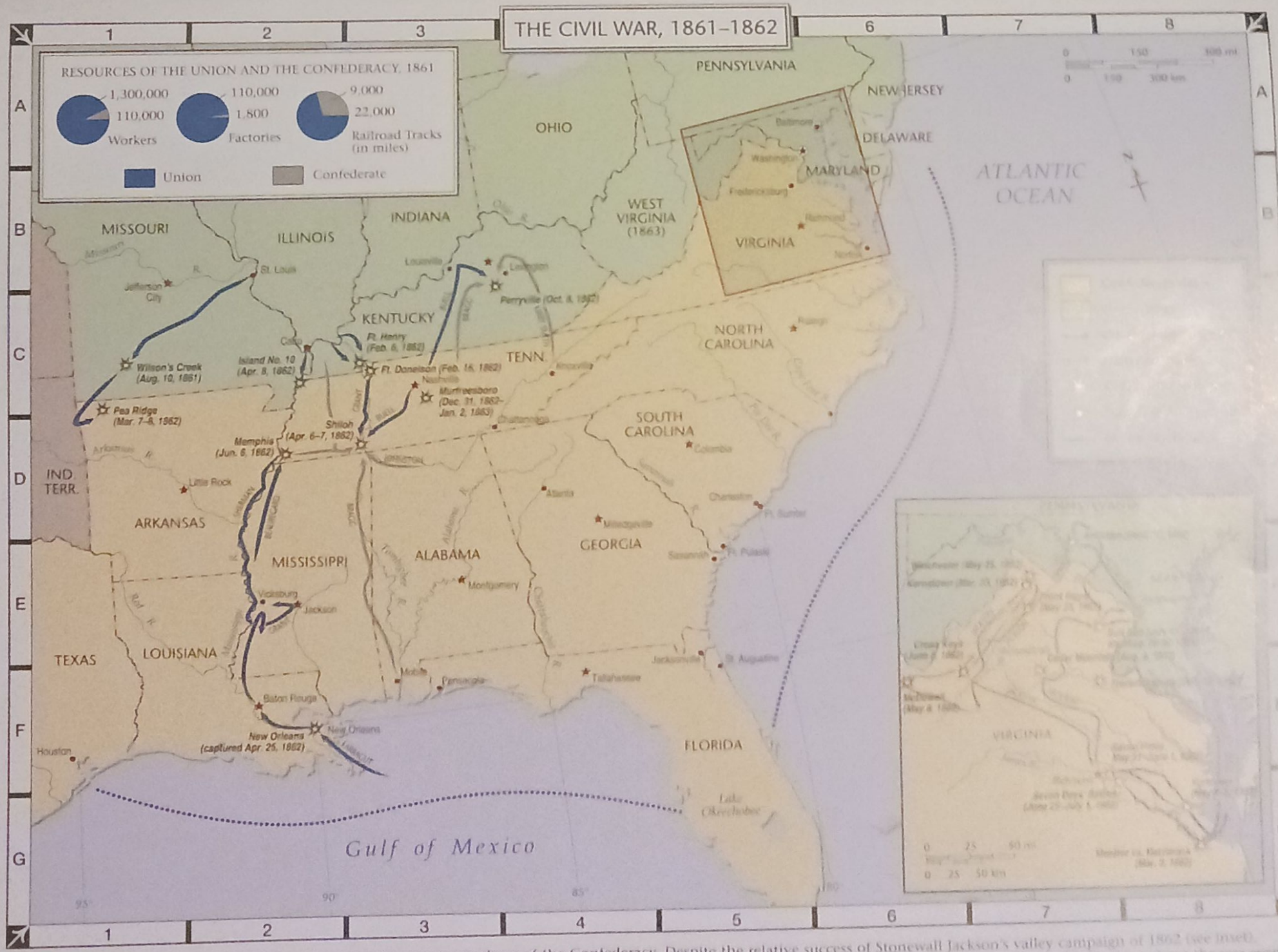
Several overland trails took American pioneers west. Some were attracted by the discovery of gold in California; others sought new farmlands in the fertile Oregon country. The Mormons fled religious persecution in the East to form a community in Utah. Why did no major trail follow the route established by Lewis and Clark?



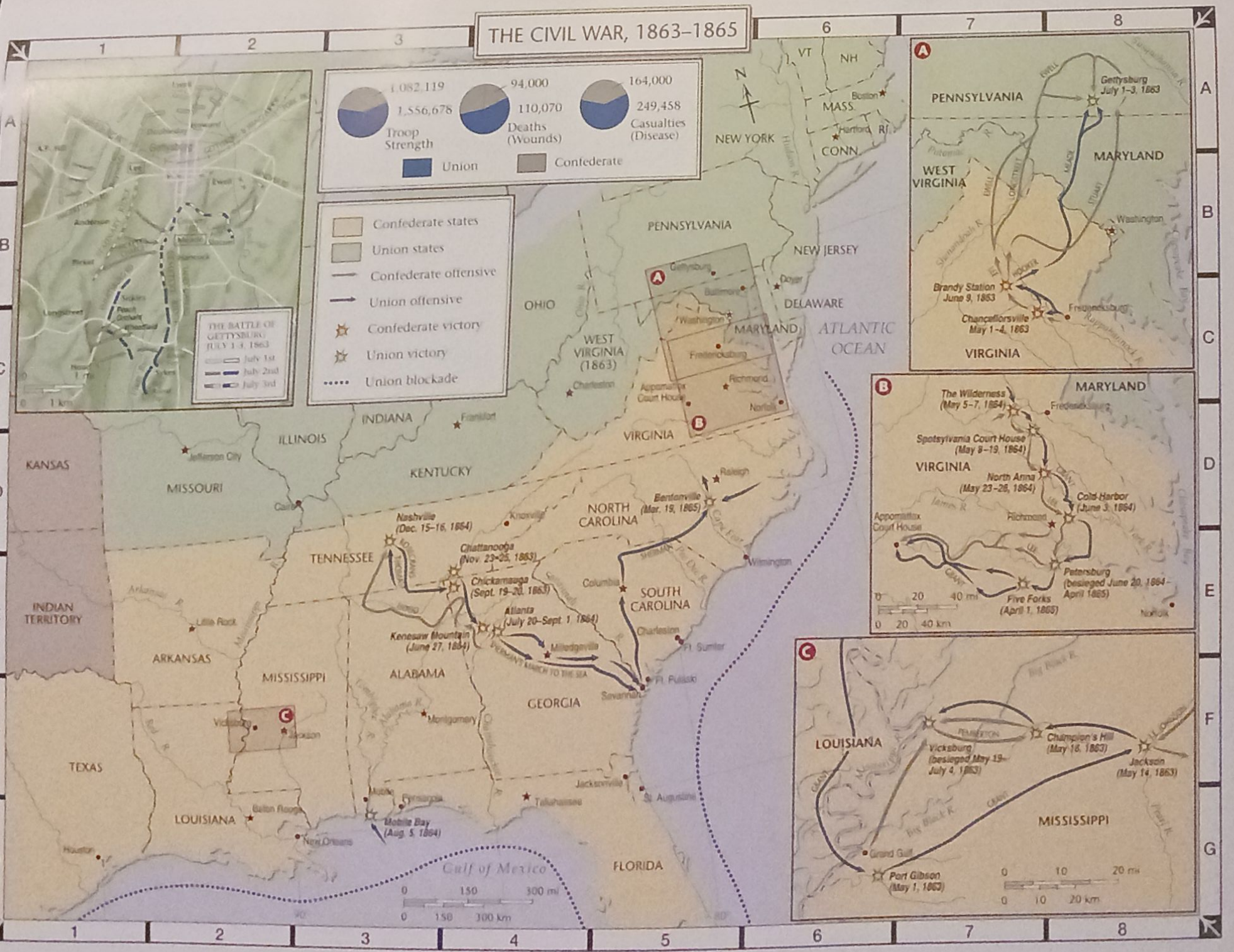
Although the importation of slaves to the United States was outlawed in 1808, a profitable internal trade developed to supply the needs of new plantations. As cotton grew in importance as an export crop, and as the nation's boundaries expanded, more land came under cultivation in the Deep South and East Texas. Why were slaves concentrated in the lands adjacent to the Mississippi river?



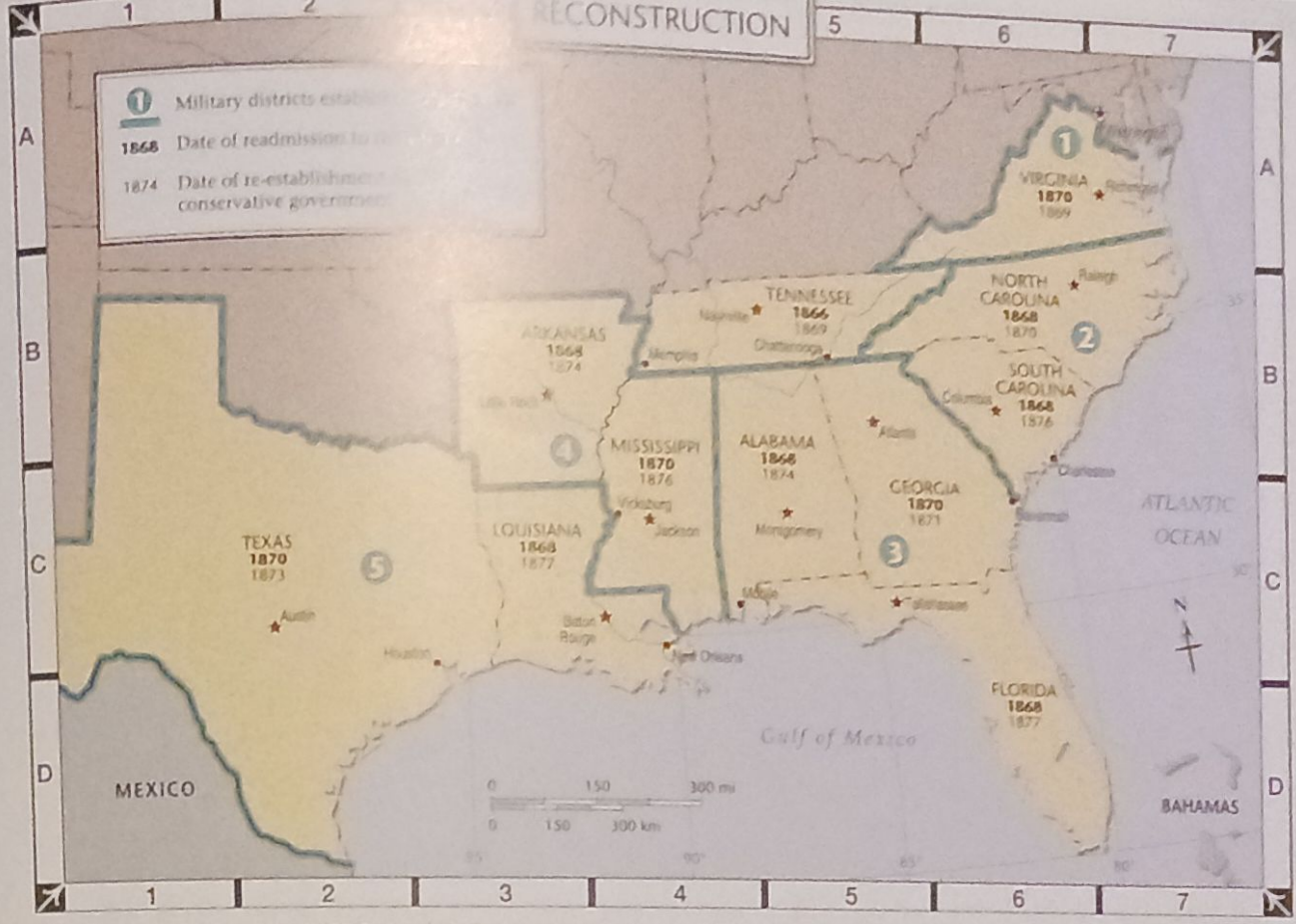
The South Carolina legislature voted to withdraw from the Union immediately following the election of Abraham Lincoln. By May, ten other southern states had joined them to form the Confederate States of America. Four slaveholding states—Missouri, Kentucky, Maryland, and Delaware—became "border" states. Divided opinion in Virginia led to the separation of West Virginia, which was admitted to the Union as a border state in 1863. Which states in the Confederacy had counties which voted against secession?



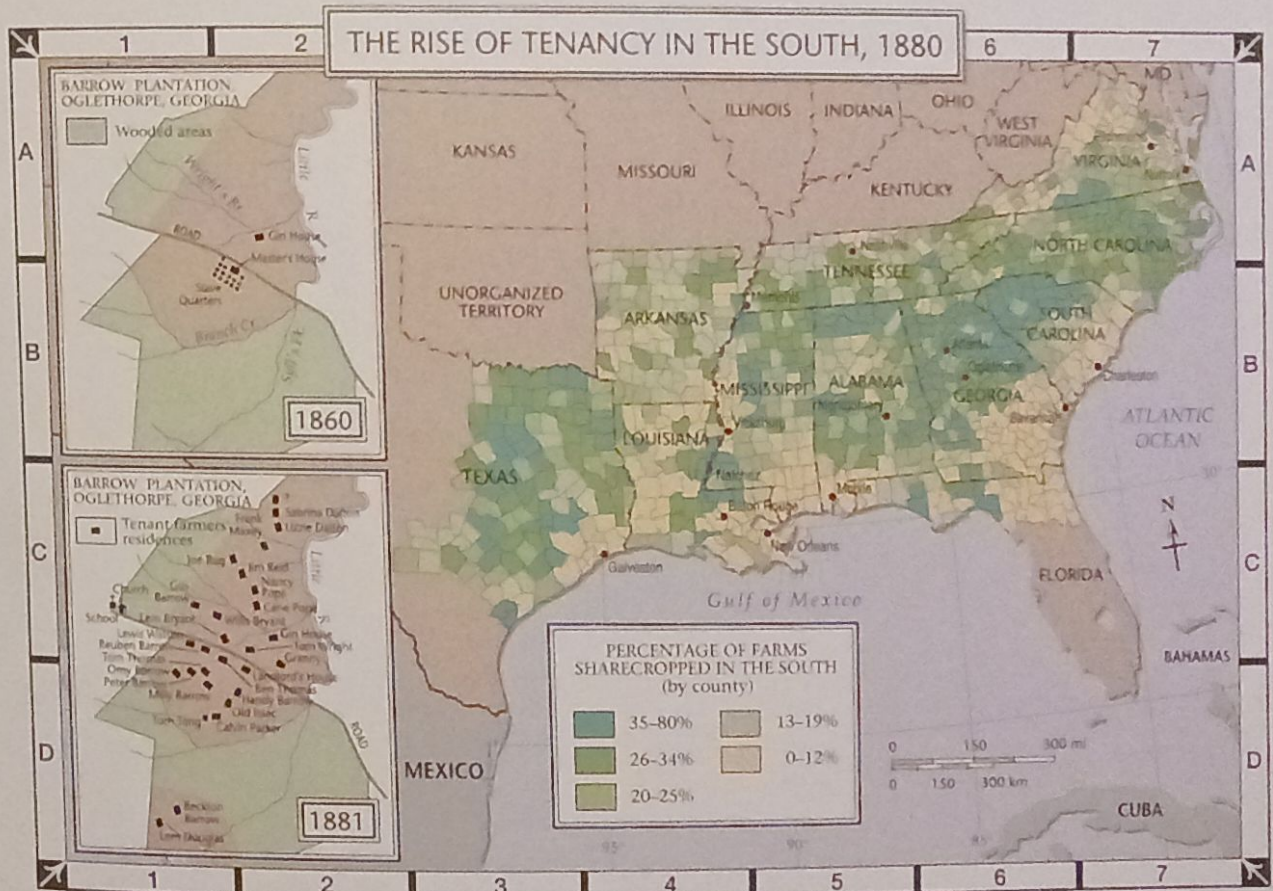
The Union entered the Civil War with resources vastly superior to those of the Confederacy. Despite the relative success of Stonewall Jackson's valley campaign of 1862 (see inset), Southern armies were hard-pressed to compete with the vast manpower and industrial strength of the North. The national capital remained in Union hands throughout the war even though it was surrounded by slaveholding states. Why didn't the Confederacy attack Washington, D.C.?



The Civil War dragged on for four long years, resulting in thousands of casualties on both sides. A truce was finally signed at Appomattox Court House, Virginia, on April 9, 1865. The inset maps provide greater detail on important campaigns. How are these campaigns connected in the general flow of military action?

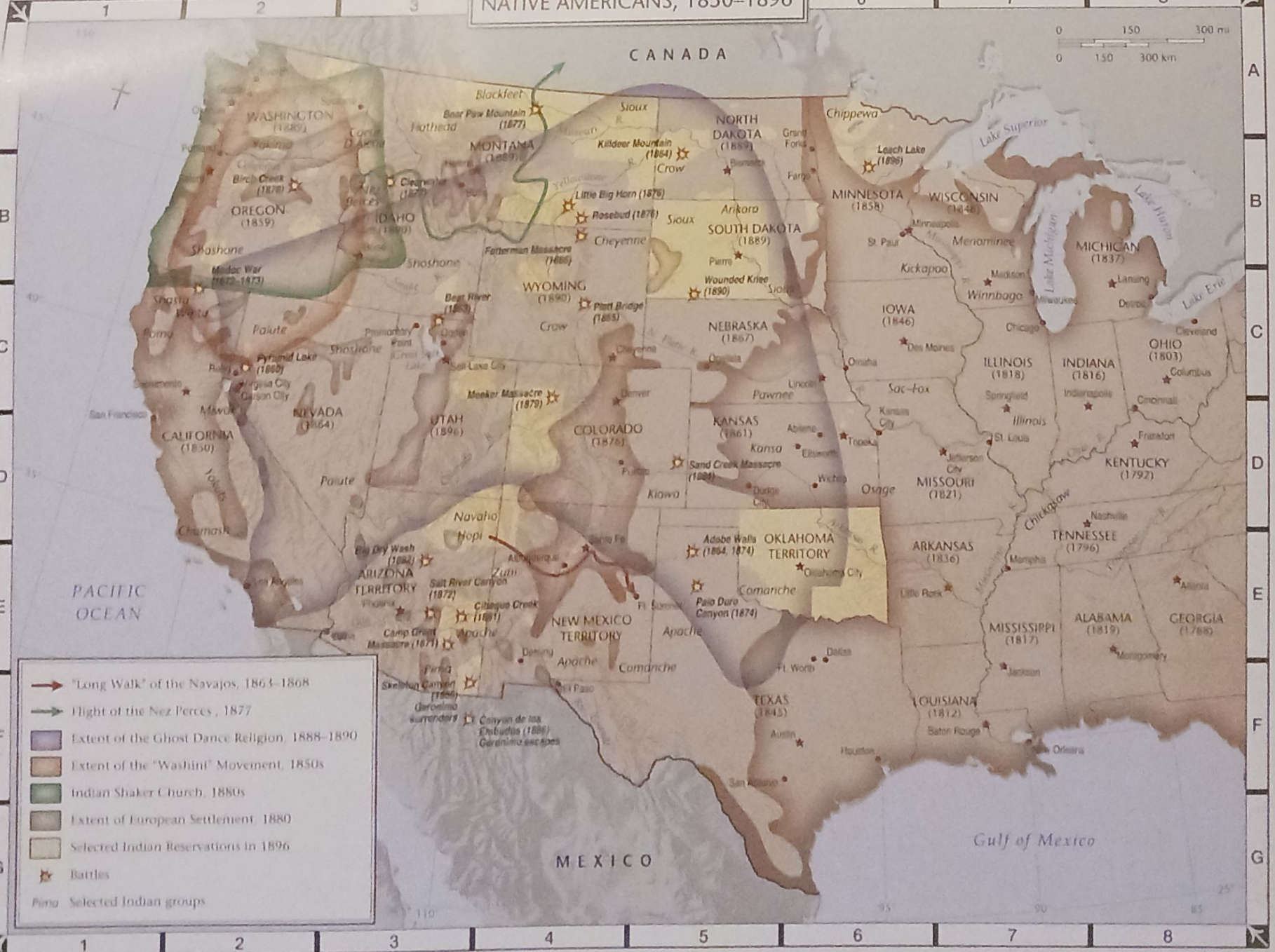


The Reconstruction Act of 1867 divided the ten southern states (Tennessee had already been readmitted to the Union) into five military districts. During this period, southern state governments were first controlled by white ex-Confederates, then by white opponents of the Confederacy and African Americans, and finally "redeemed" by conservative white Democrats. Which states were the last ones in which conservative Democrats regained control?

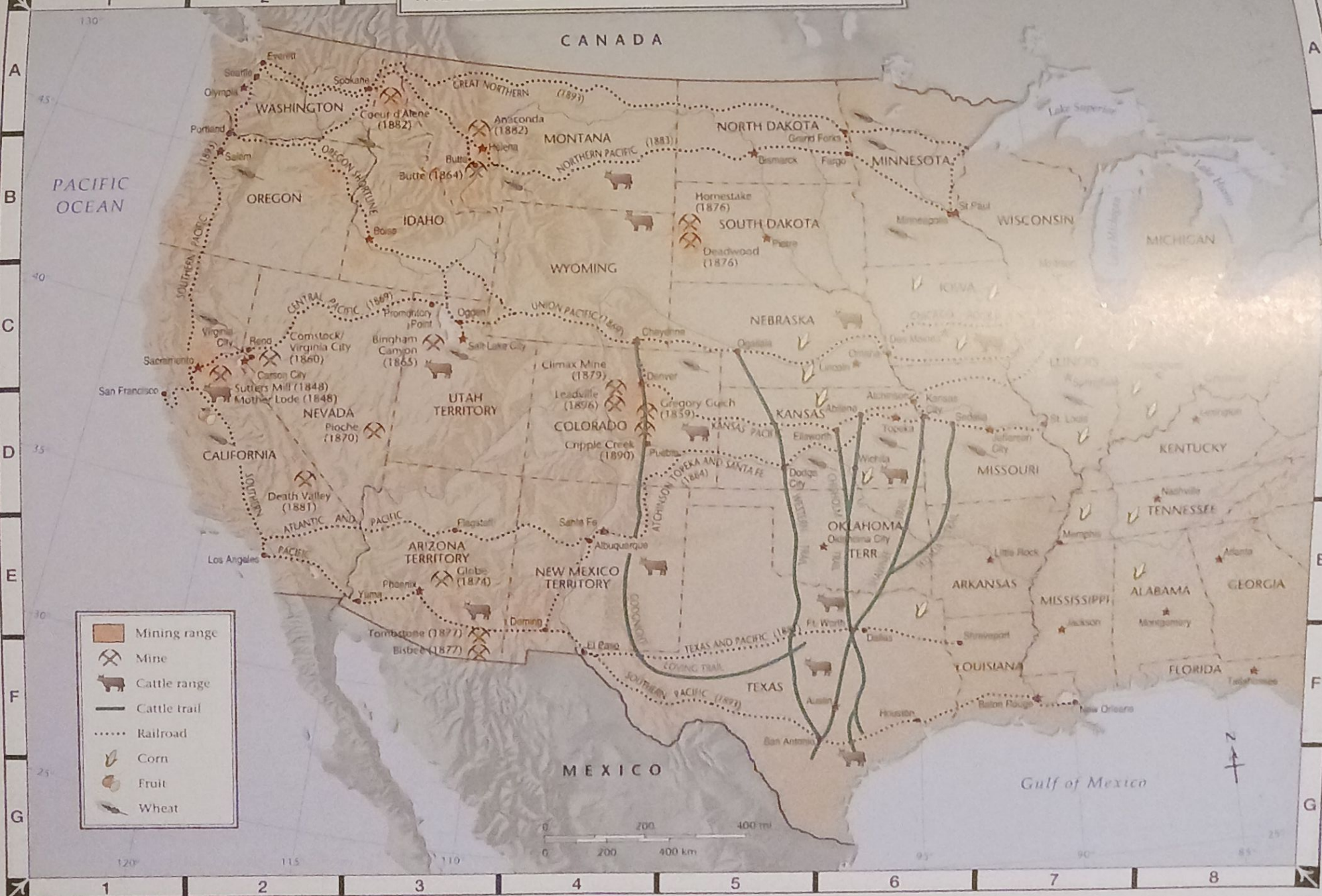


Emancipation did little to grant former slaves economic freedom. The freedmen often had little choice than to continue to work for their former masters as tenant farmers, or sharecroppers. In addition, the depressed economy of the 1870s forced many poor white farmers into tenancy. Forced to cultivate a single cash crop such as cotton, both white and black sharecroppers were vulnerable to market fluctuations which could leave them deeply in debt and render them virtual serfs of the landowner. Why might farm tenancy have been less common along in some coastal regions?

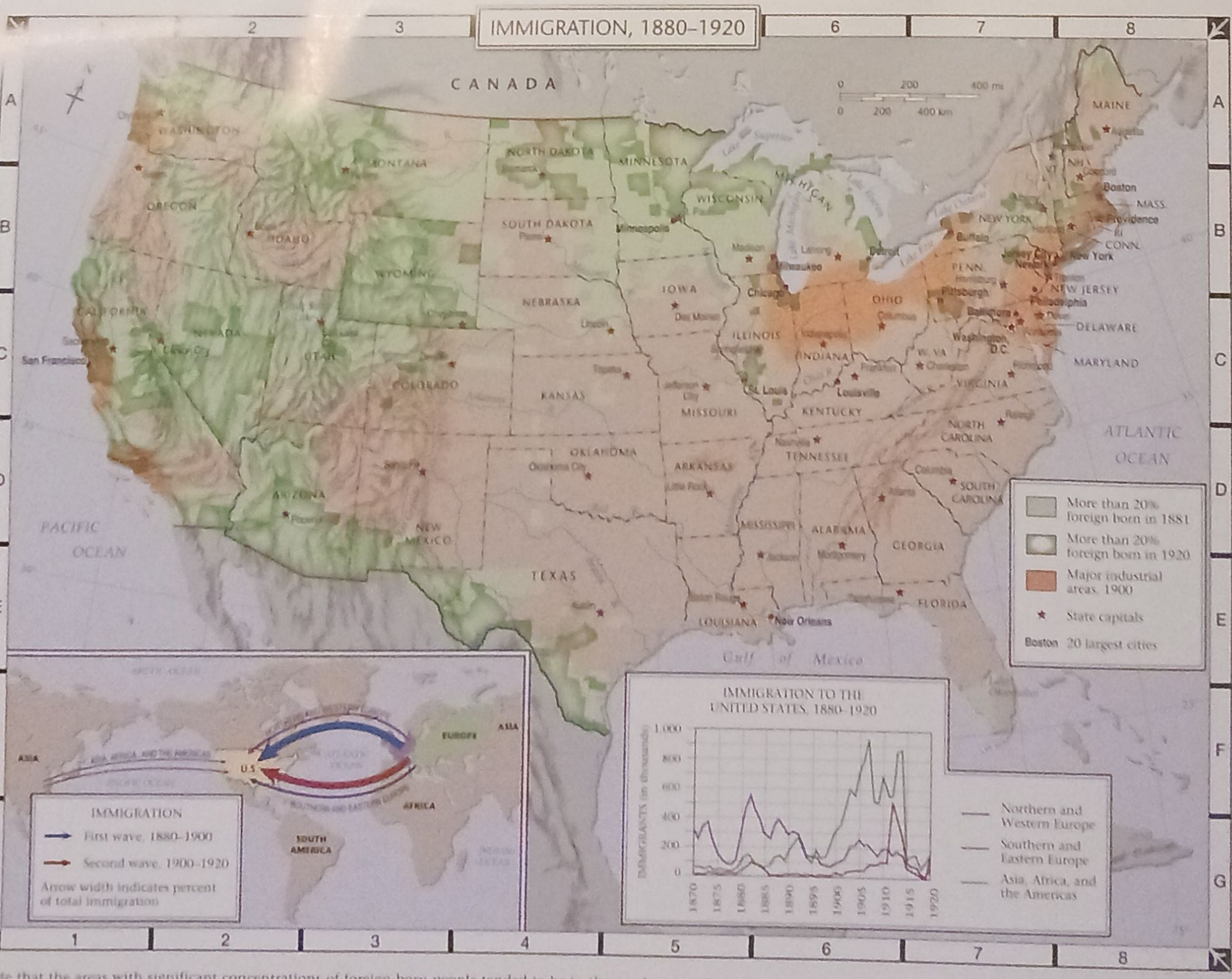
NATIVE AMERICANS, 1850–1896



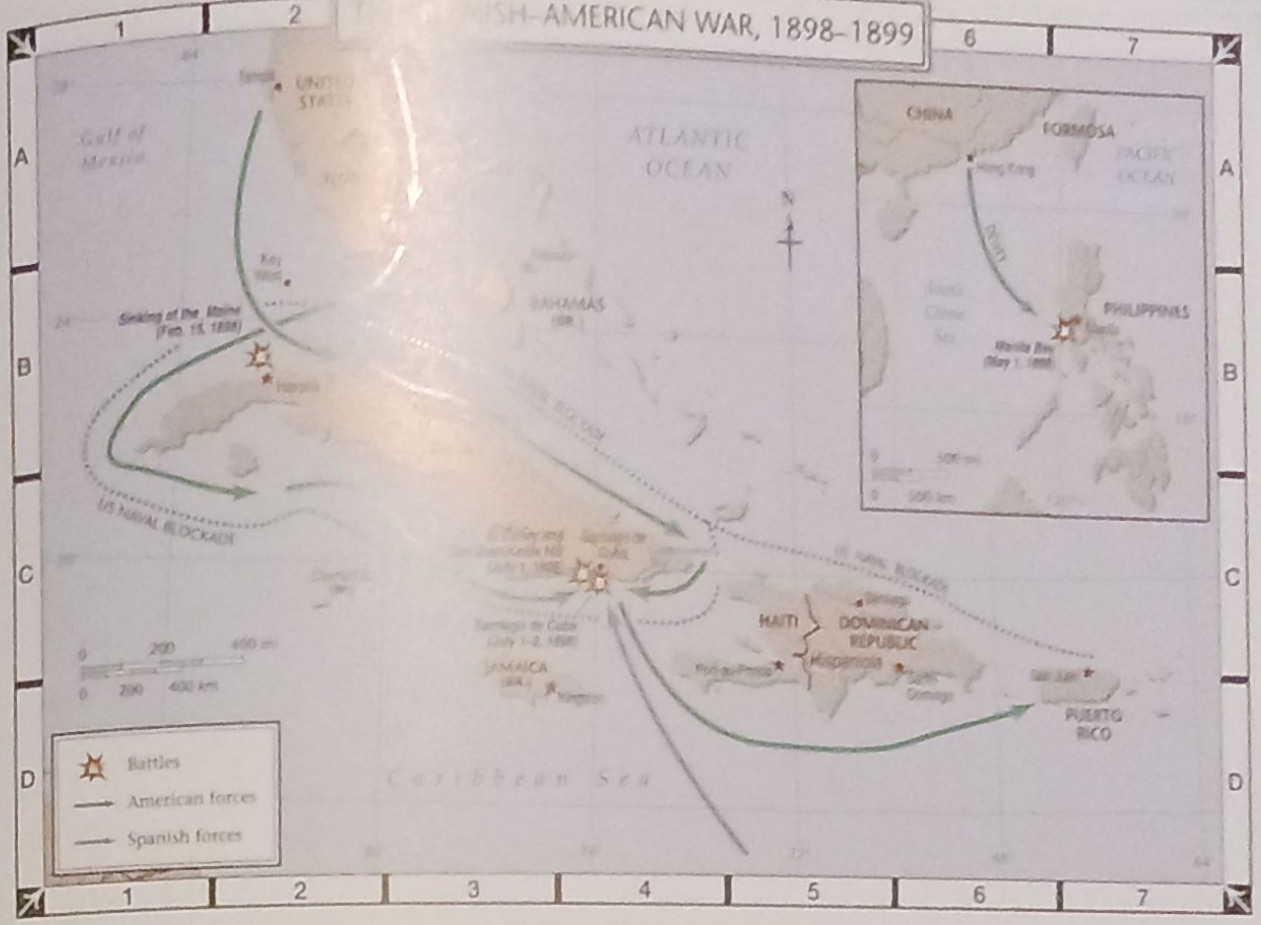
As white settlers streamed into the West, Native Americans faced increasing pressure to vacate their lands. The Indians responded in various ways: some waged war against white Americans; others moved to government-sponsored reservations; while many others sought strength and solace in new religious movements. The 100th meridian is often described as the boundary between wet America and dry America. What does this suggest about the division of land in South Dakota in 1896?



The abundant natural resources of the West attracted Americans during the nineteenth century. Mining, farming, and cattle ranching became major industries; trade with the East was facilitated by the growth of the railroads. Why did these railroads have an east-west orientation rather than following a north-south route?



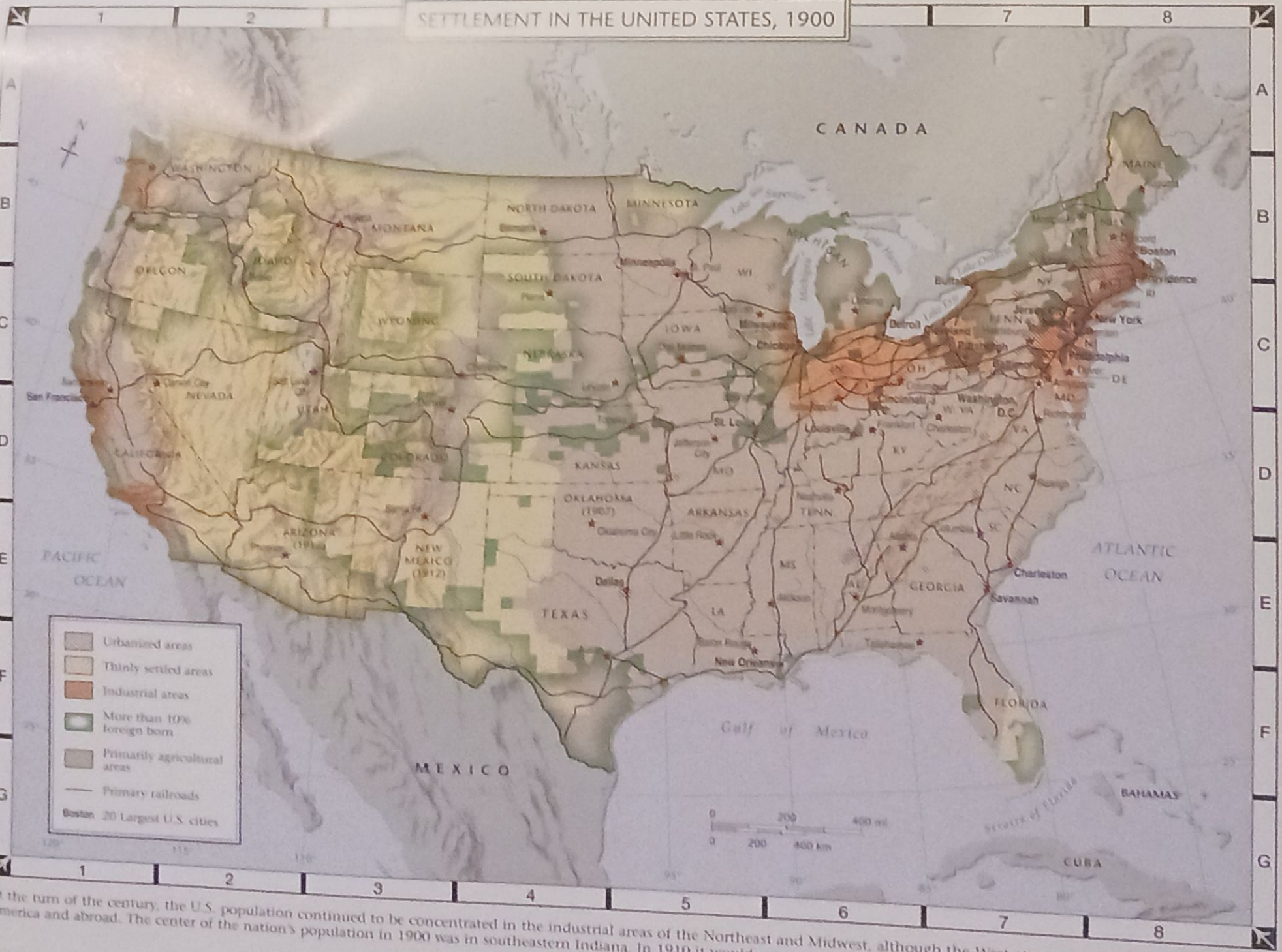
Note that the areas with significant concentrations of foreign-born people tended to be in the newly opened regions of the West, in industrial cities of the north, and along both the Mexican and Canadian borders. Why were immigrants not generally attracted to the Southern states during this period?



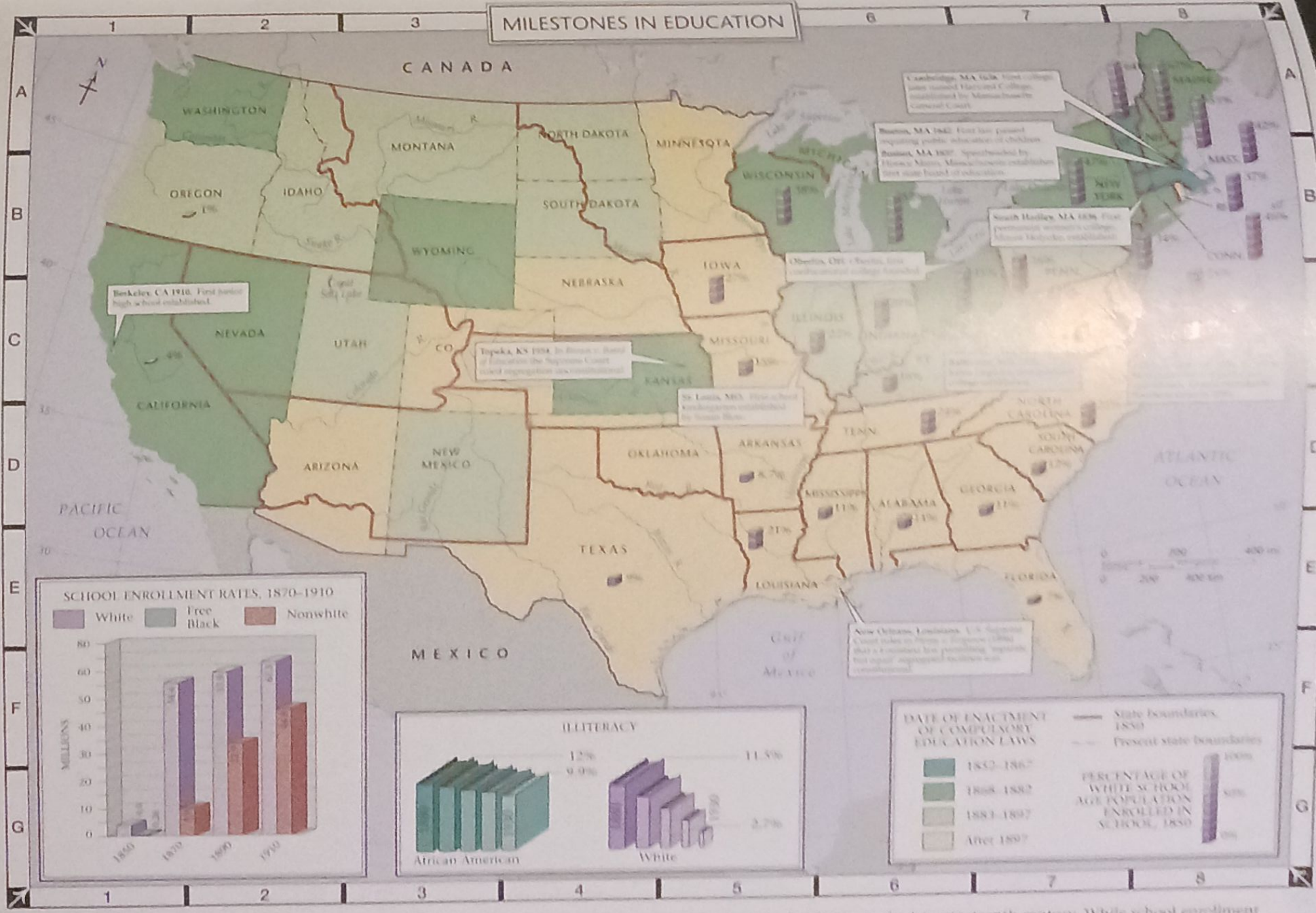
The sinking of the battleship *Maine* prompted the United States to declare war on Spain in 1898. Meanwhile, the two nations dueled over another Spanish possession, the Philippines. The treaty ending the war granted Cuba its independence (although it remained an American protectorate until 1934), and assigned Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Philippines to American control. What was the political status of Haiti, the Dominican Republic, Jamaica and the Bahamas in 1899?

Through warfare, annexation, and purchase, the United States had established itself as a Pacific power by the turn of the century. In addition to acquiring the future states of Alaska and Hawaii, the United States gained control over the Philippines, Puerto Rico, and numerous Pacific islands. Why were American imperial holdings concentrated in the Pacific Ocean rather than the Atlantic?

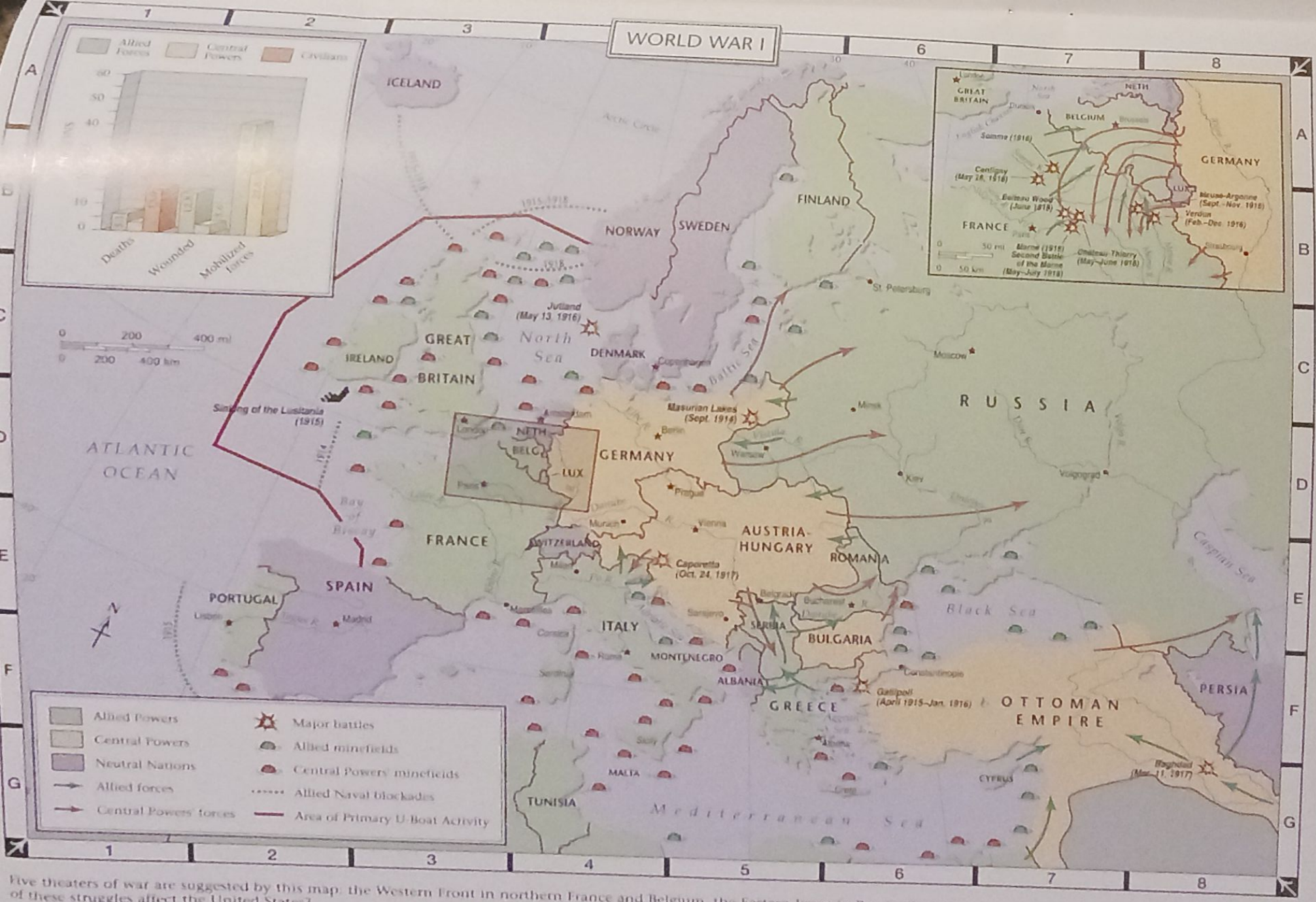
SETTLEMENT IN THE UNITED STATES, 1900



At the turn of the century, the U.S. population continued to be concentrated in the industrial areas of the Northeast and Midwest, although the West attracted new settlers both from America and abroad. The center of the nation's population in 1900 was in southeastern Indiana. In 1910 it would move across the states in which

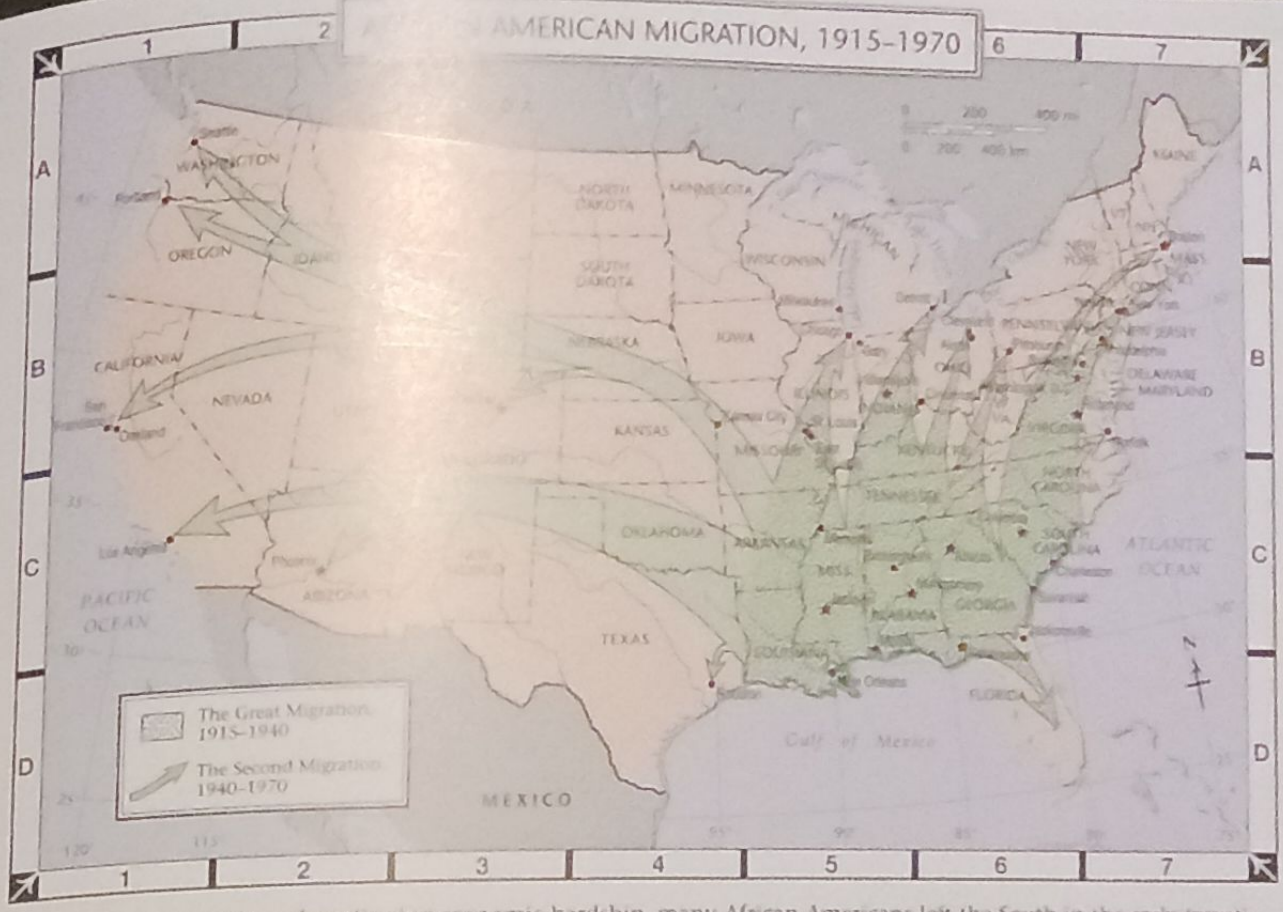


Led by Massachusetts, which enacted the nation's first compulsory education law, other states adopted similar legislation in the late nineteenth century. While school enrollment increased and illiteracy declined, these gains were not shared equally, as African Americans continued to be excluded from white schools until the 1930s. What geographic factors would encourage the diffusion of ideas like compulsory education?

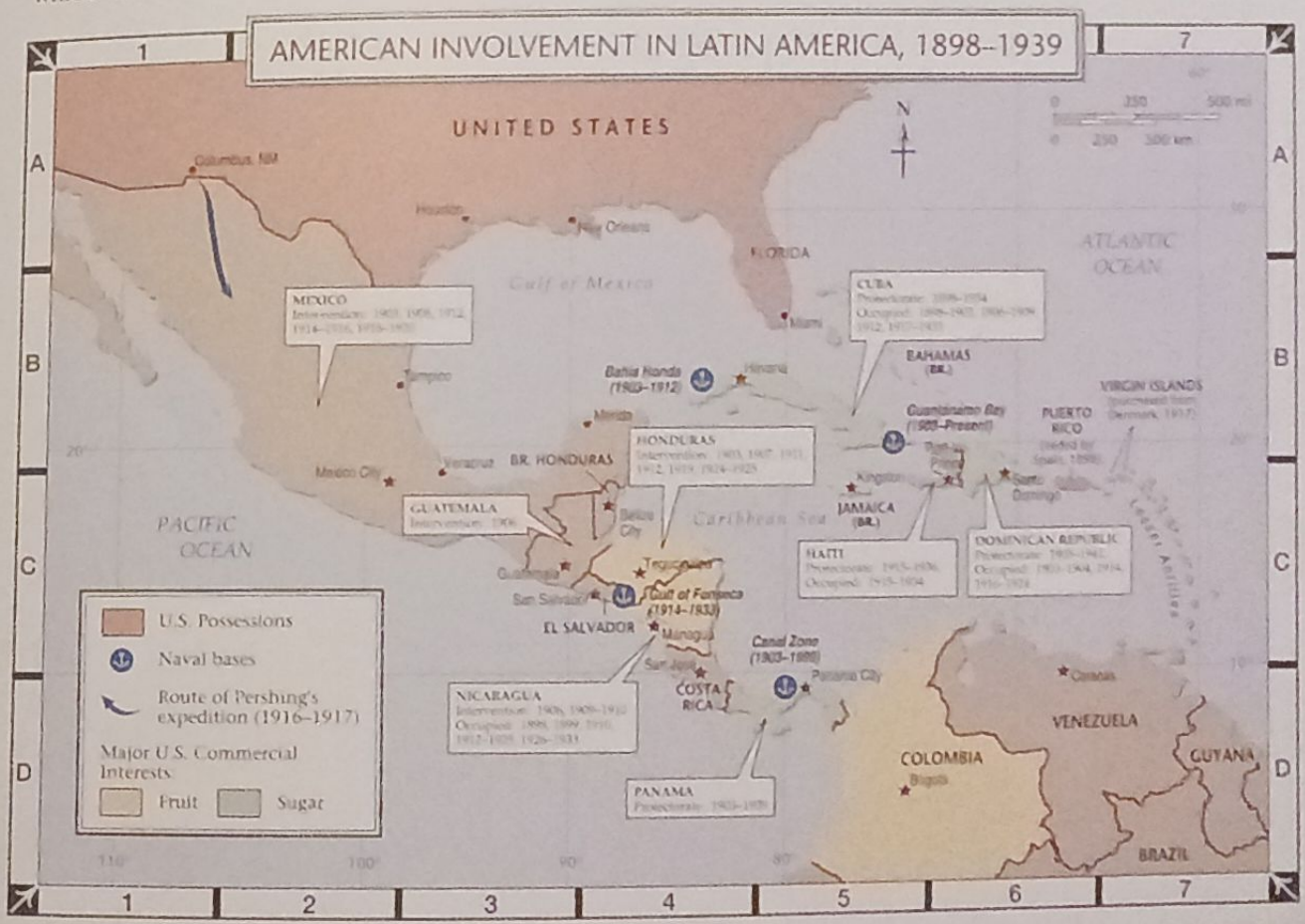


Five theaters of war are suggested by this map: the Western Front in northern France and Belgium, the Eastern Front in Russia, the Ottoman Empire, and the war at sea. How did each of these struggles affect the United States?

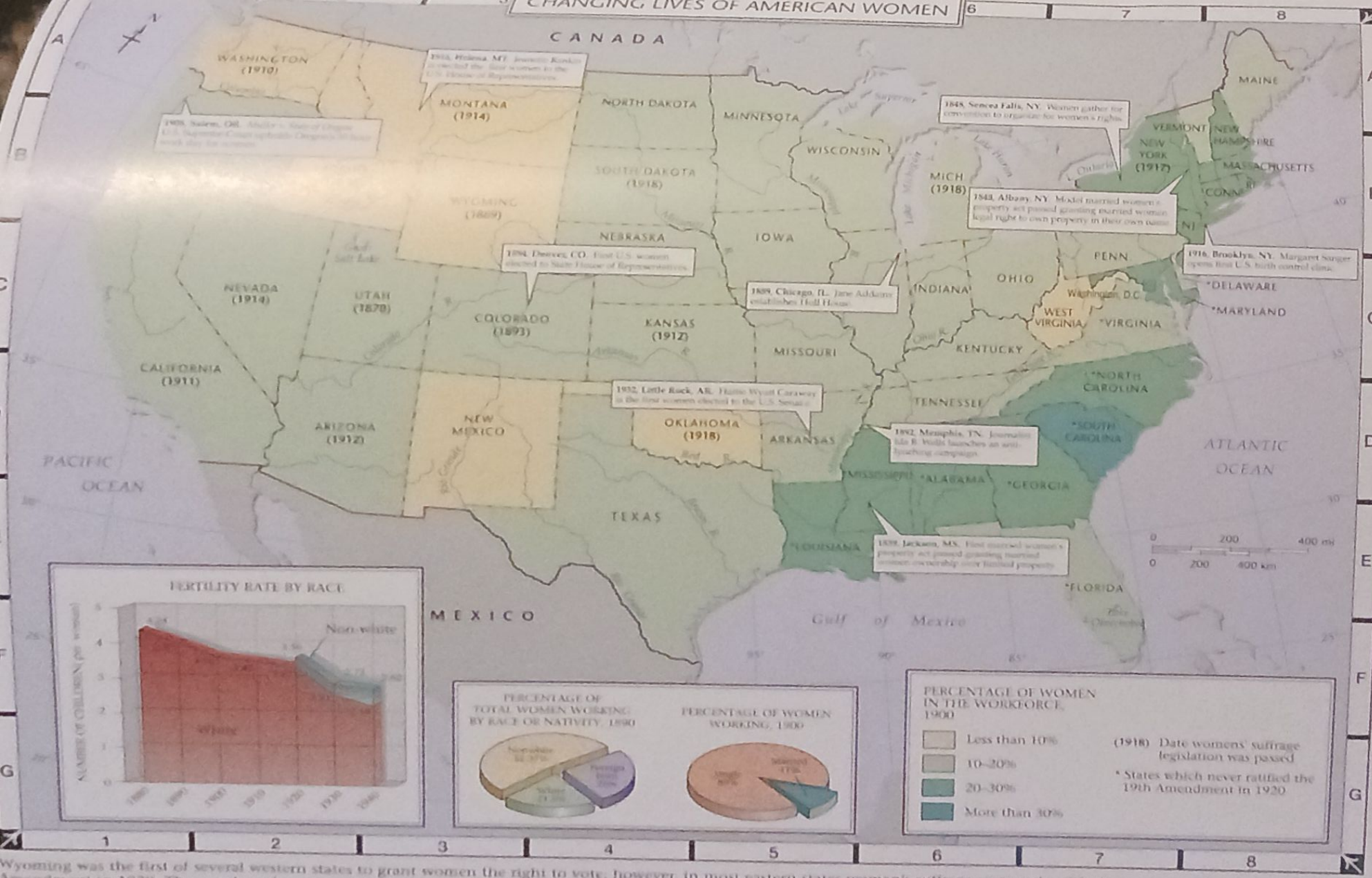
America and abroad. The center of the [illegible]



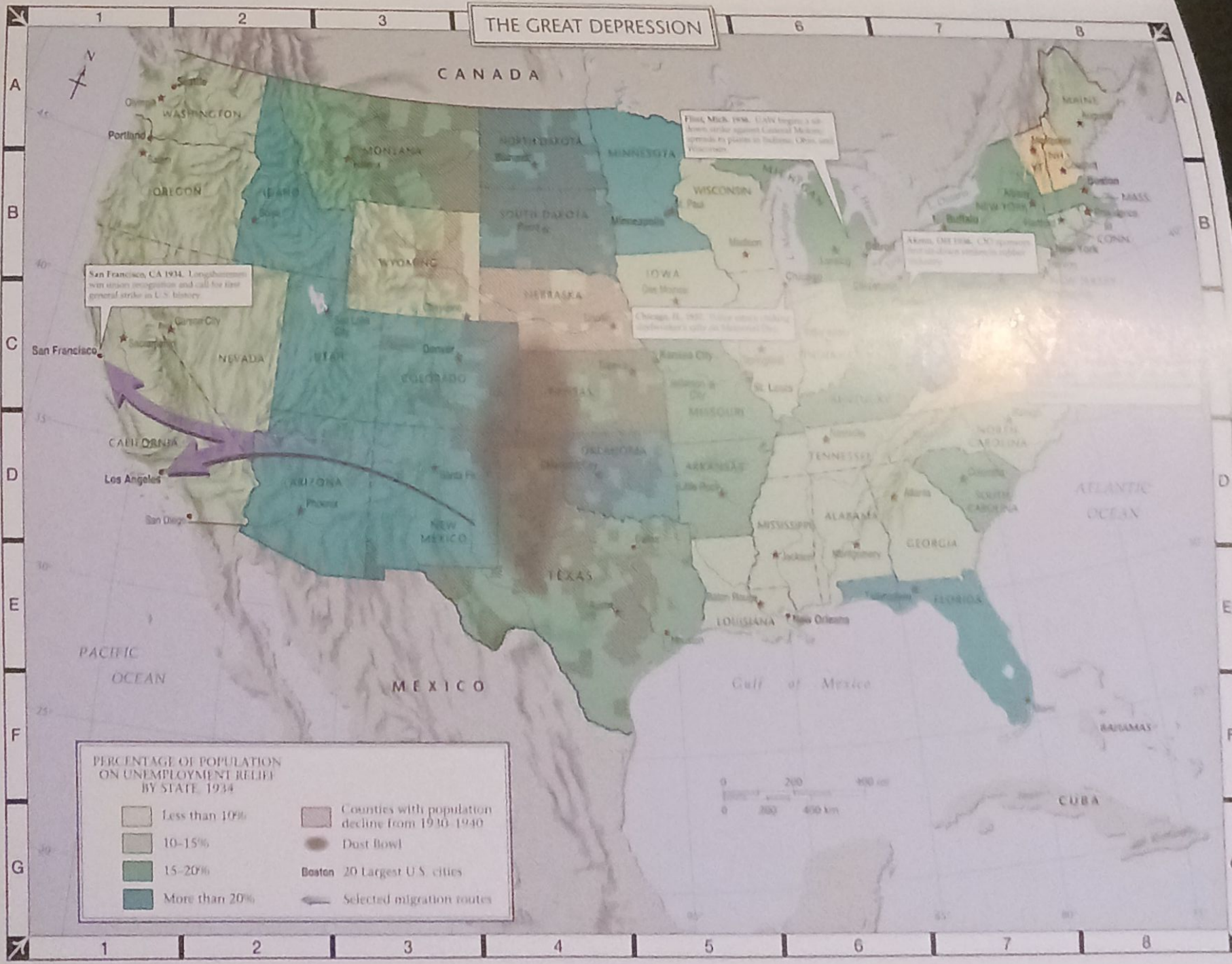
Facing pervasive racism and continuing economic hardship, many African Americans left the South in the early twentieth century. This Great Migration to the industrial cities of the North met the need for workers during World War I. A similar surge in migration, this time to the North and West, occurred during and after World War II. In the North, African Americans worked in low-paying jobs and were subjected to discrimination. From the indications on this map, which states were likely to have the lowest percentage of African-American citizens after 1970?



Having established a far-flung colonial empire, the United States attempted to exert dominance over its southern neighbors. A series of interventions and occupations followed as America sought to protect its political and economic interests in the Caribbean region. Which nations had the largest number of instances of American involvement in domestic politics?



Wyoming was the first of several western states to grant women the right to vote, however, in most eastern states woman's suffrage came only with the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment in 1920. The number of women in the workforce grew steadily to 18 percent by 1900, a figure which reflects an emphasis on industrial workers and ignores those more informally employed in agricultural and domestic occupations. How might one explain the higher percentage of women in the workforce in South Carolina and the Southern states in 1900? Would the same explanation hold true for New York and New England?



The Great Depression, the worst economic downturn in America's history, saw millions of workers lose their jobs and become dependent on federal relief. At the same time, the soil ero sion, crop failures, and droughts of the Dust Bowl drove desperate farmers from the Plains states to look for work elsewhere, especially on the West Coast. Why is the 100th meridian often cited as a critical line in the 1930s?

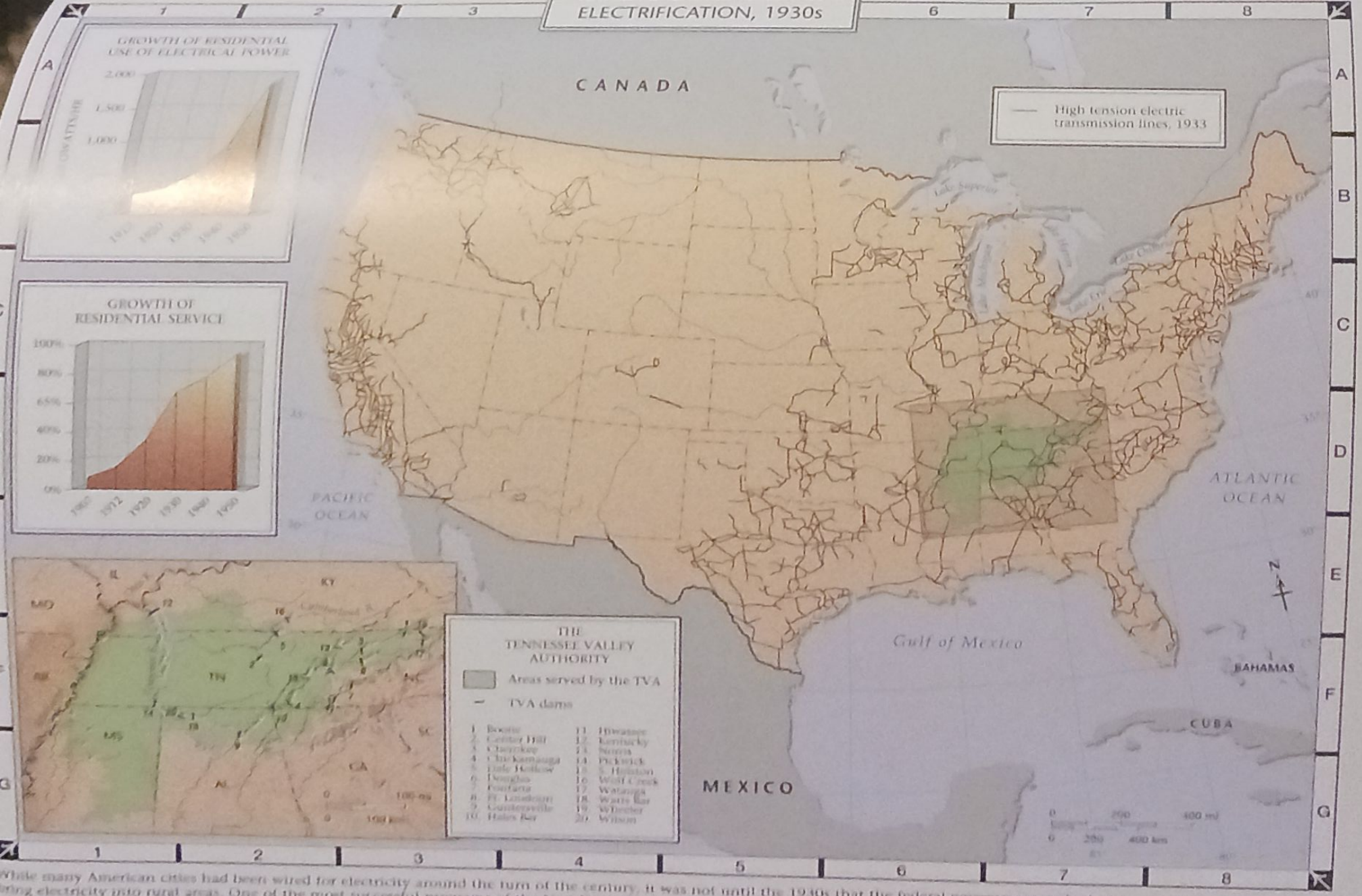
ELECTRIFICATION, 1930s

THE TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

Areas served by the TVA

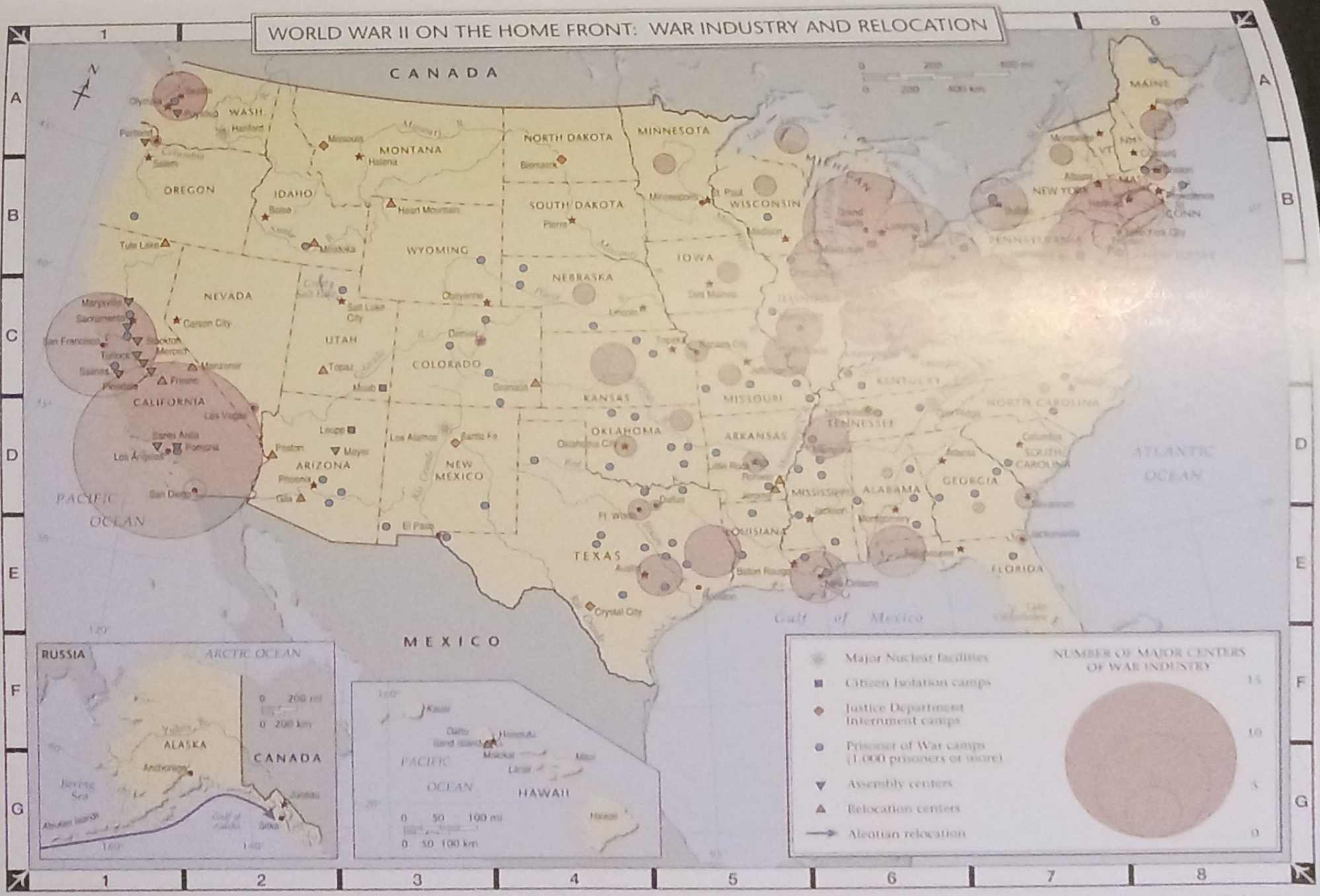
TVA dams

1. Boone
2. Center Hill
3. Cherokee
4. Chickamauga
5. Dale Hollow
6. Douglas
7. Fontana
8. Ft. Loudoun
9. Gunterville
10. Hales Bar
11. Hiwassee
12. Kentucky
13. Norris
14. Pickwick
15. S. Holston
16. Wolf Creek
17. Watauga
18. Watts Bar
19. Wheeler
20. Wilson

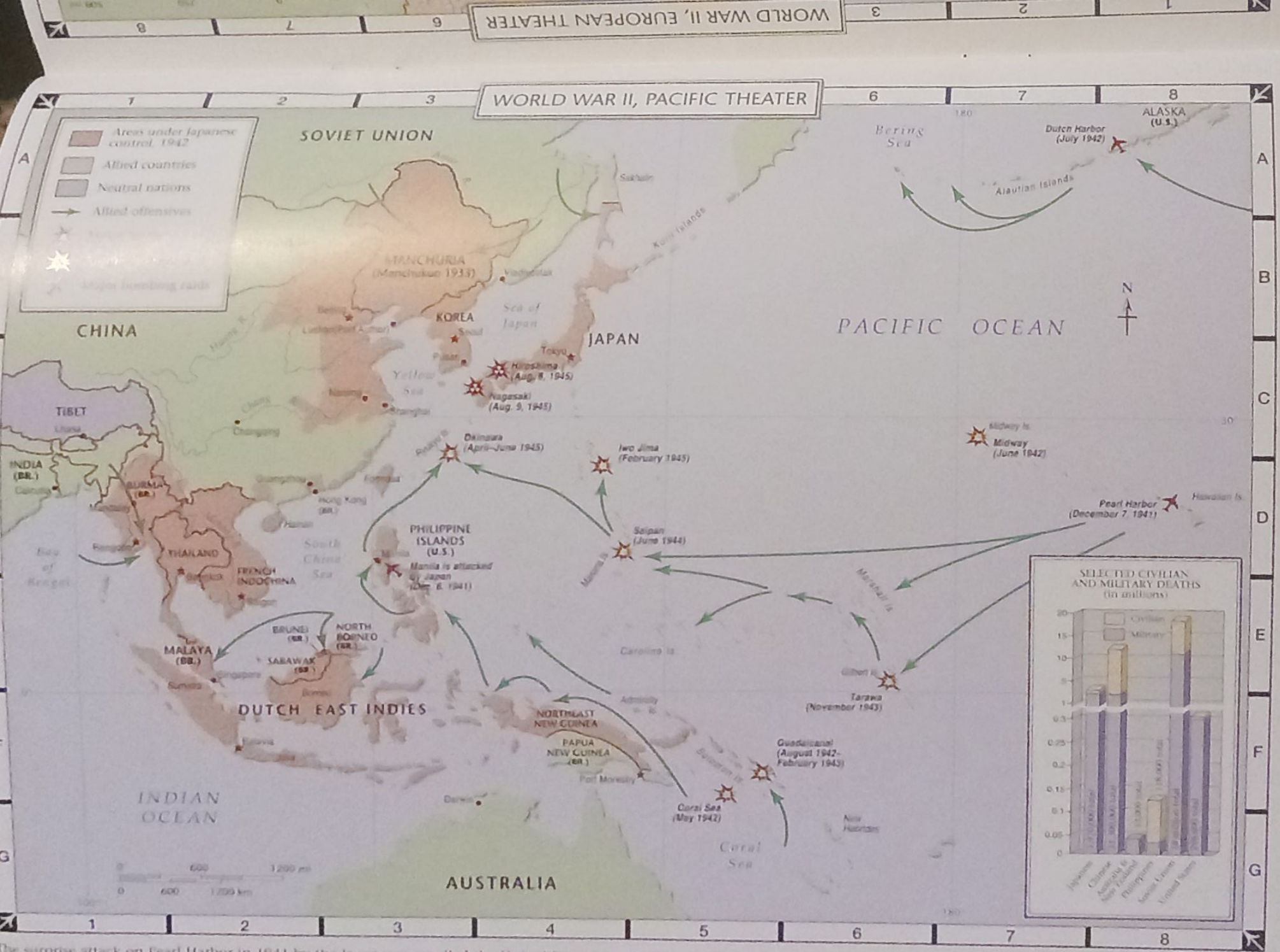


While many American cities had been wired for electricity around the turn of the century, it was not until the 1930s that the federal government embarked on a massive program to bring electricity into rural areas. One of the most successful programs of the New Deal, the Tennessee Valley Authority, constructed numerous hydroelectric dams which eventually supplied power for many communities. Which five states seem to have had the most extensive electric grids in 1833? What might be some reasons for their leadership?

TRY: Would the same explanation hold true for New York and New England?



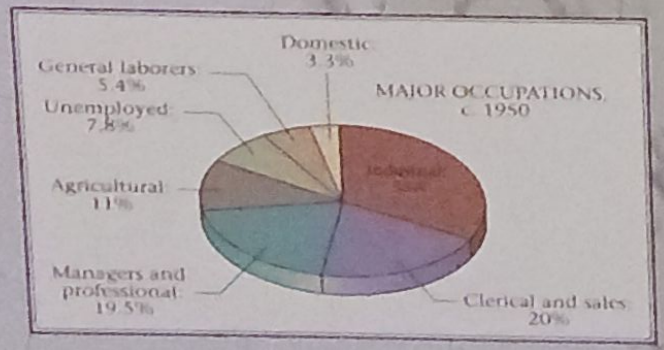
As the civilian population generally benefited from the booming economy fueled by the defense industry, Japanese-Americans became victims of wartime hysteria. The War Relocation Authority (WRA) removed thousands of Japanese Americans to temporary assembly centers before transporting them to remote relocation camps, where they were detained for the duration of the war. Why were war industries, POW camps, and relocation centers dispersed across the nation? What city had the greatest concentration of war industries?



The surprise attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941 by the Japanese propelled the United States into the Second World War. Battles raged on land and sea throughout the Pacific, as Allied troops slowly reclaimed the Pacific Islands, Manchukuo, and Southeast Asia from Japanese occupation.

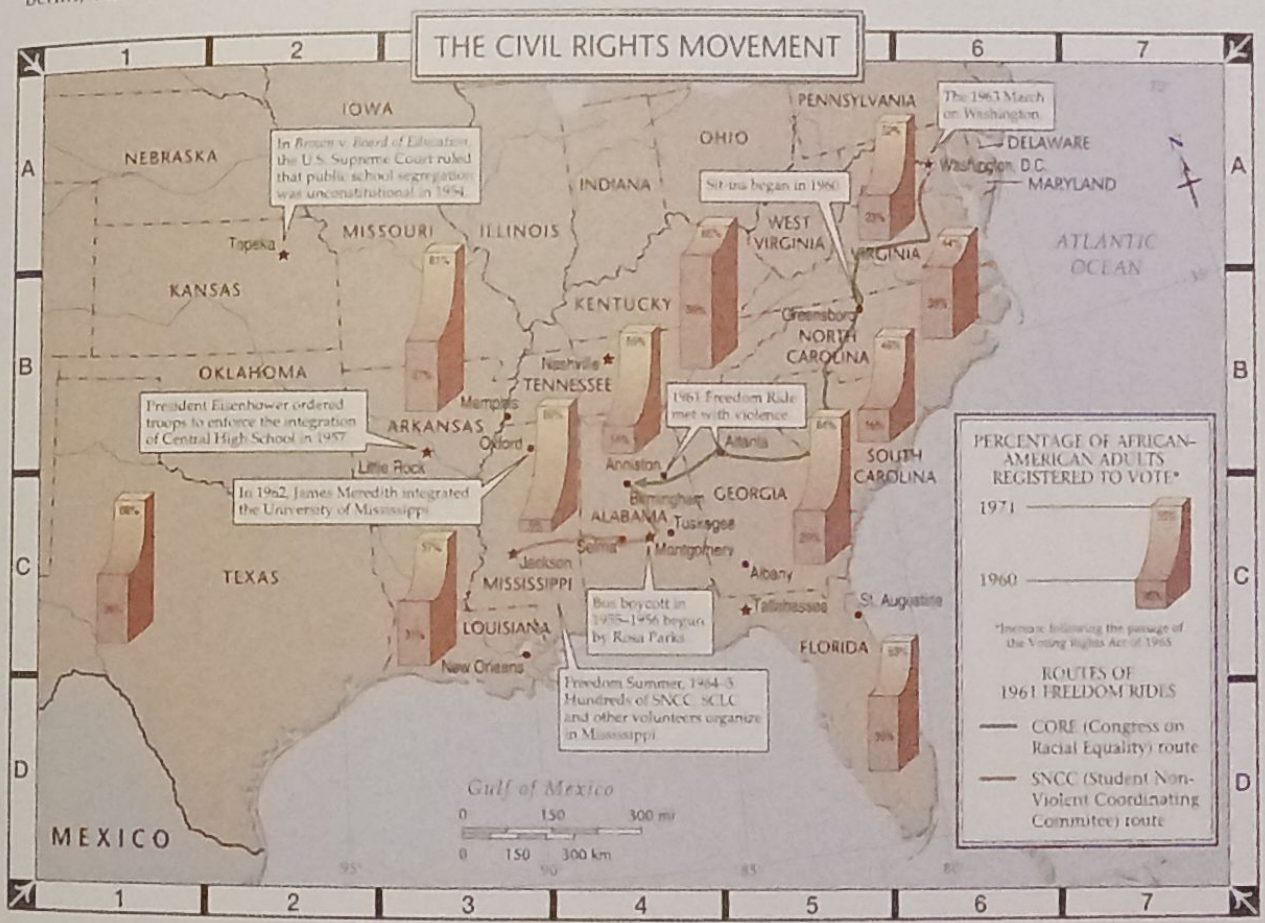
By 1941 the Axis Powers controlled most of Europe and North Africa. Britain was subjected to bombardment by the German air force, and the Soviet Union suffered devastating casualties while repelling German invasions. The tide turned in the Allies' favor after the June 1994 invasion of Normandy, France (D-day). To understand this map one must keep the sequence of battles in mind. How does the timing of the North African campaign relate to the struggles on Soviet soil?

SETTLEMENT IN THE UNITED STATES, c. 1950

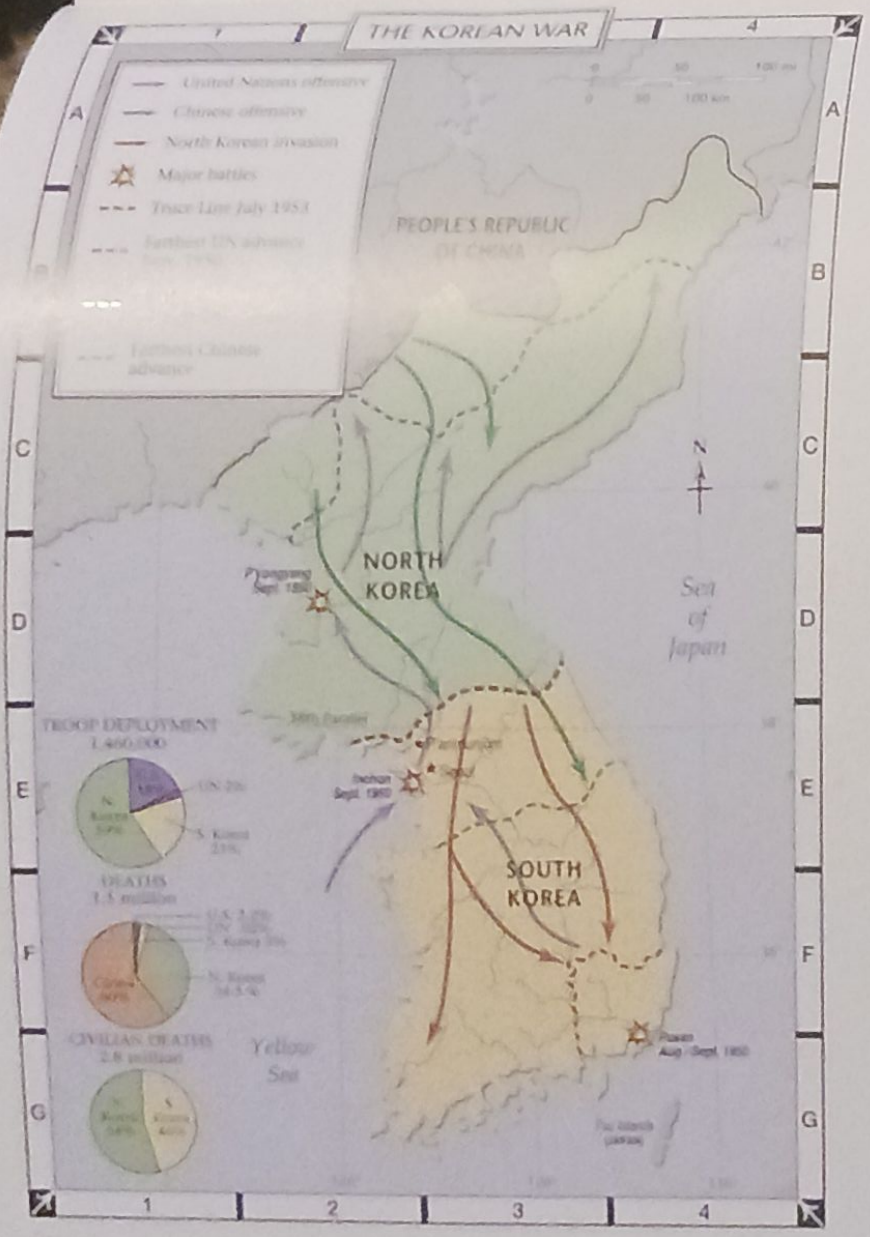


In 1950 the United States was the world's leading industrial nation and produced an agricultural surplus which was exported overseas. A well-developed transportation system enabled the economy to function. What other transportation facilities should be kept in mind in addition to highways on this map?

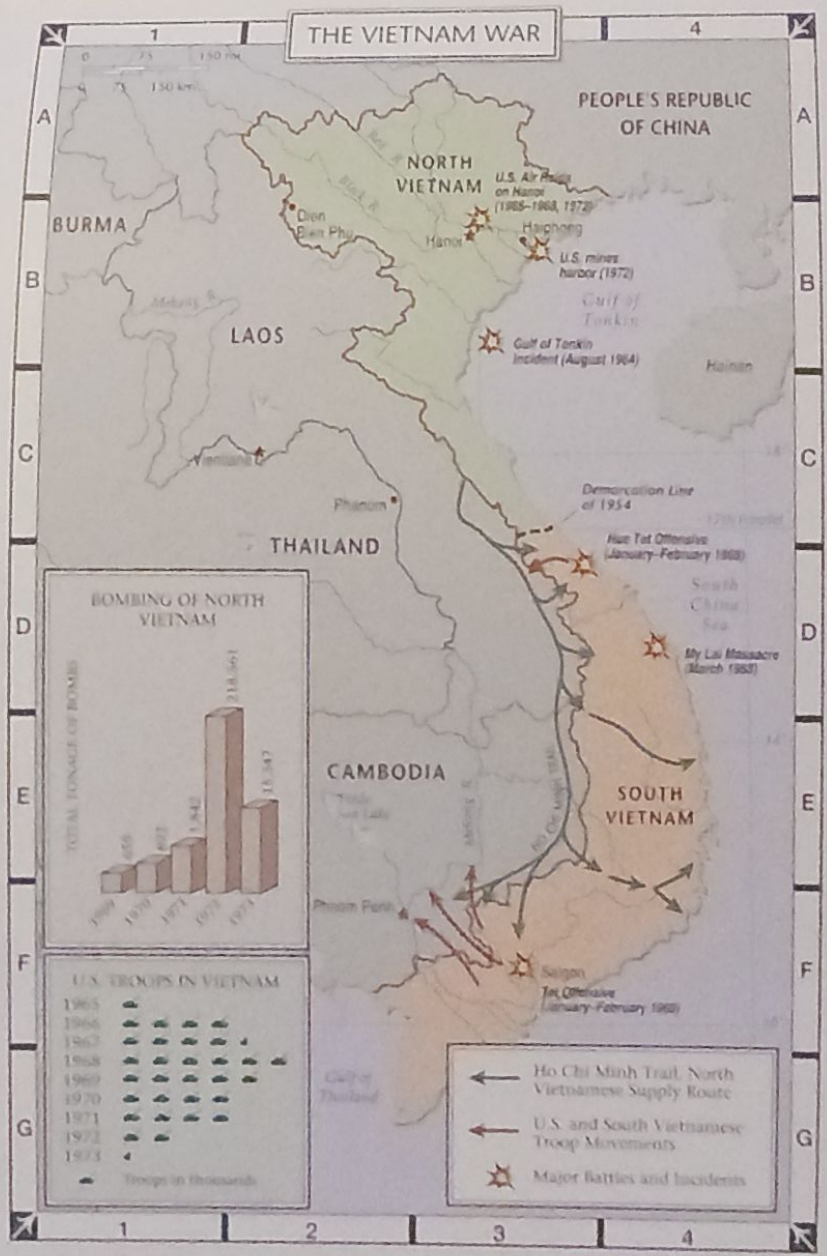
During the Cold War, the United States and its Western Allies formed the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) to confront the perceived threat from the Soviet Union and its allies (the Warsaw Pact). An "Iron Curtain" divided the continent of Europe into East and West. Germany, defeated during World War II, was partitioned between the two rival blocs. Berlin, the German capital, was also divided into four occupation zones. How might this have led to friction after 1950?



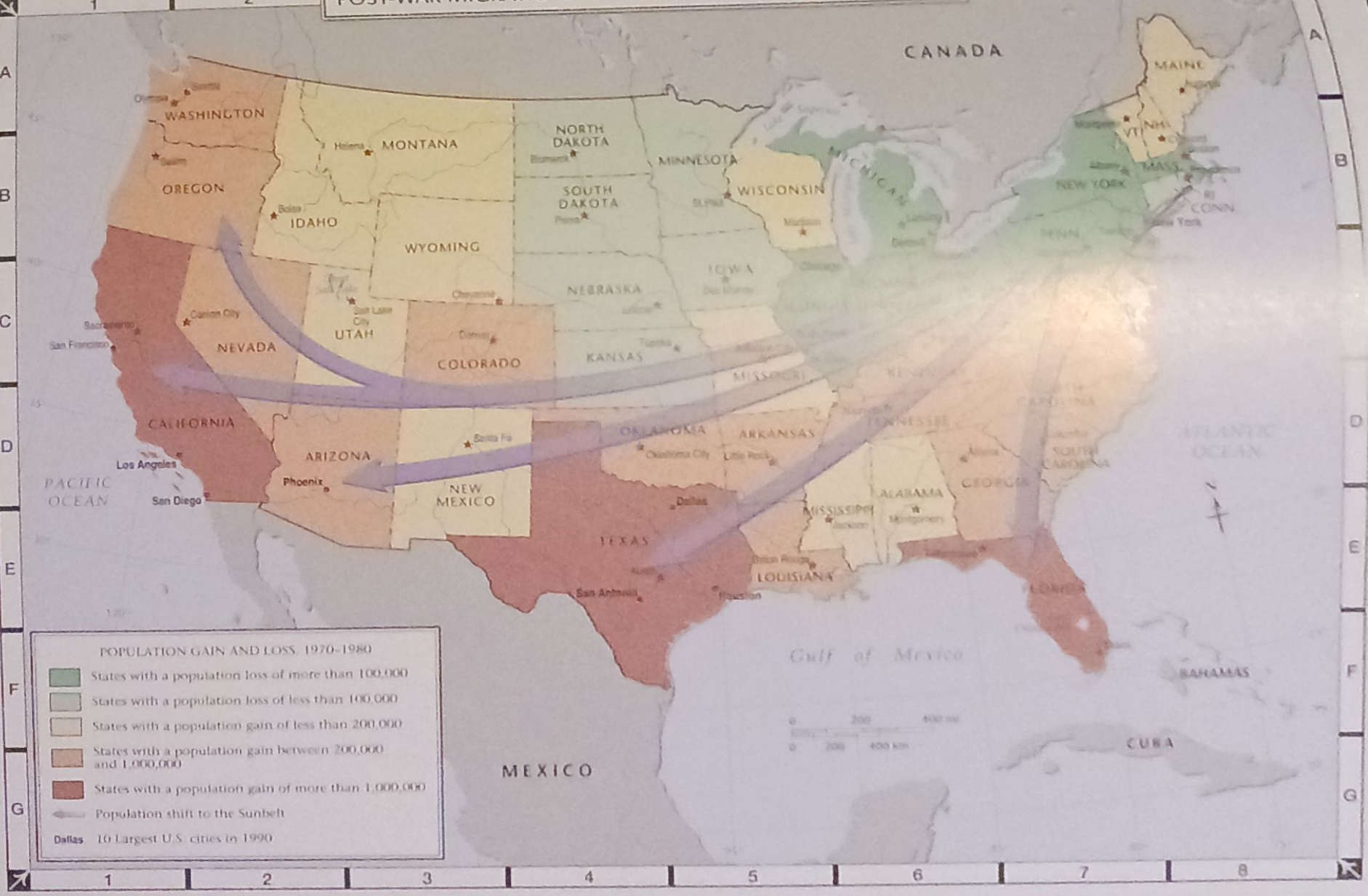
The civil rights movement gained momentum throughout the 1950s and 1960s. The U.S. Supreme Court declared school segregation unconstitutional in Brown v. Board of Education; Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on a Montgomery bus and sparked a bus boycott; the Freedom Rides drew attention to the problem of segregation; and the passage of the Voting Rights Act led to a dramatic increase in the number of African-American voters in the South. In which states did the increase in African-American voters between 1960 and 1971 probably have the greatest impact?



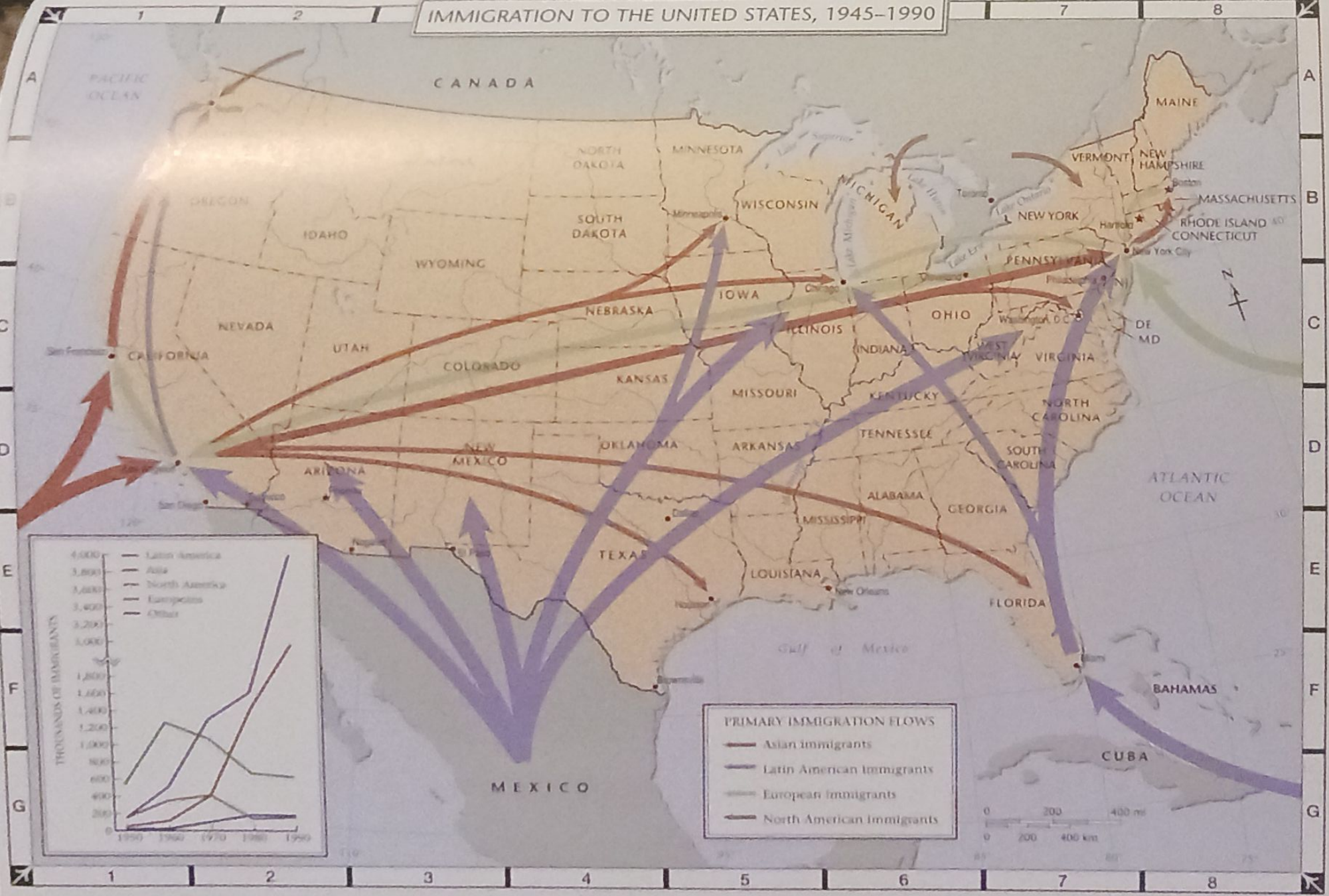
When North Korea invaded South Korea in 1950, United Nations (UN) troops, commanded by General Douglas MacArthur, managed to drive them back to the Chinese border. This victory was short-lived, however, as Chinese troops entered the war, pushing the UN troops back to the south. Thousands of soldiers and millions of Korean civilians were killed in the conflict, which ended with the 1953 armistice that set the dividing line between the two countries in nearly the same place it had been before the war. How many times did Seoul change hands during the conflict?



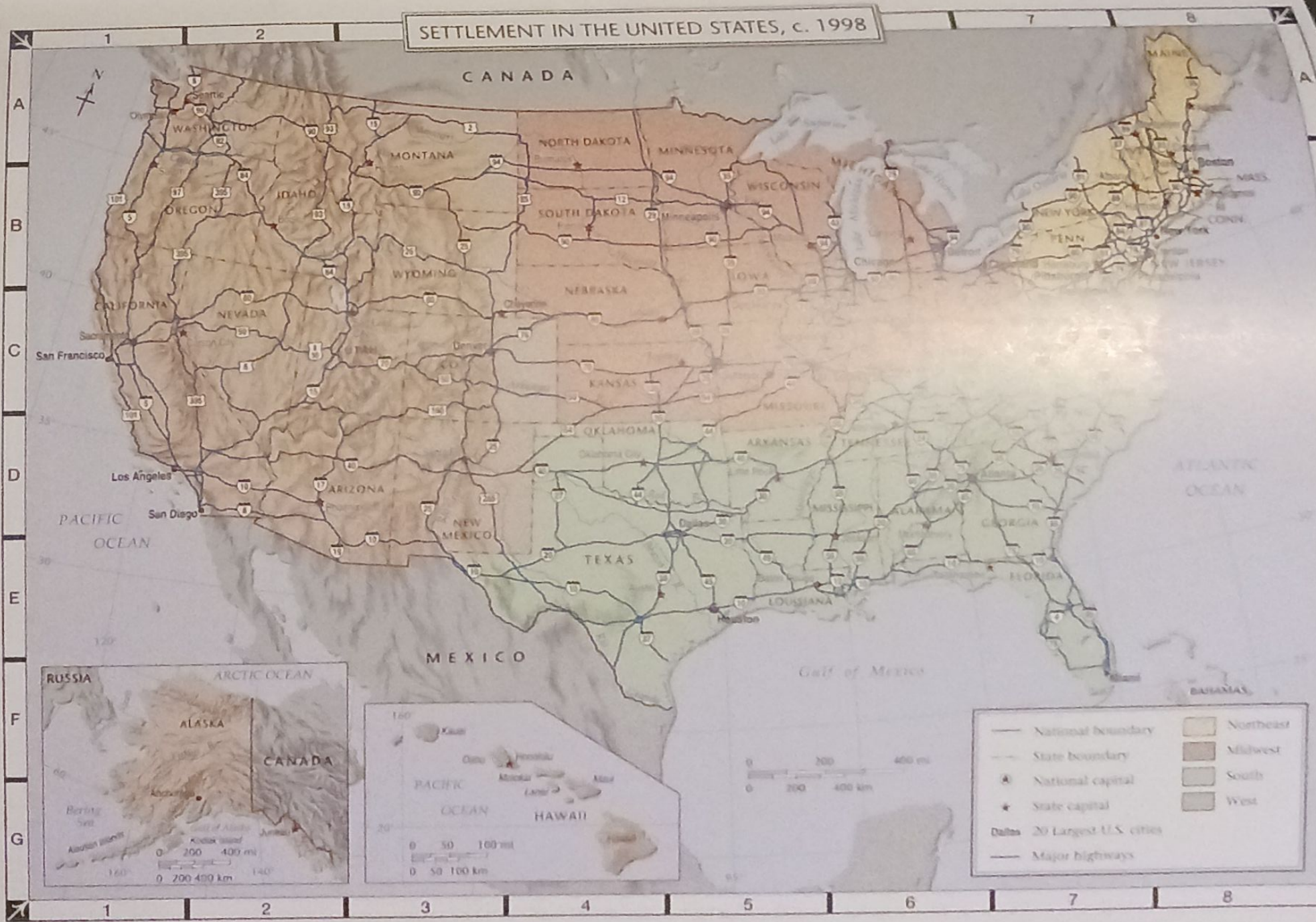
Although supplying financial assistance and military advisors to South Vietnam for years, the United States became directly involved in the Southeast Asia war following the Gulf of Tonkin incident in 1964. Despite the commitment of thousands of troops and massive bombing raids on North Vietnam, the Americans were unable to make much progress. The tide turned decisively after the North Vietnamese Tet offensive in 1968. Was China a factor in the Vietnam war? Compare the situation to that of the Korean War.



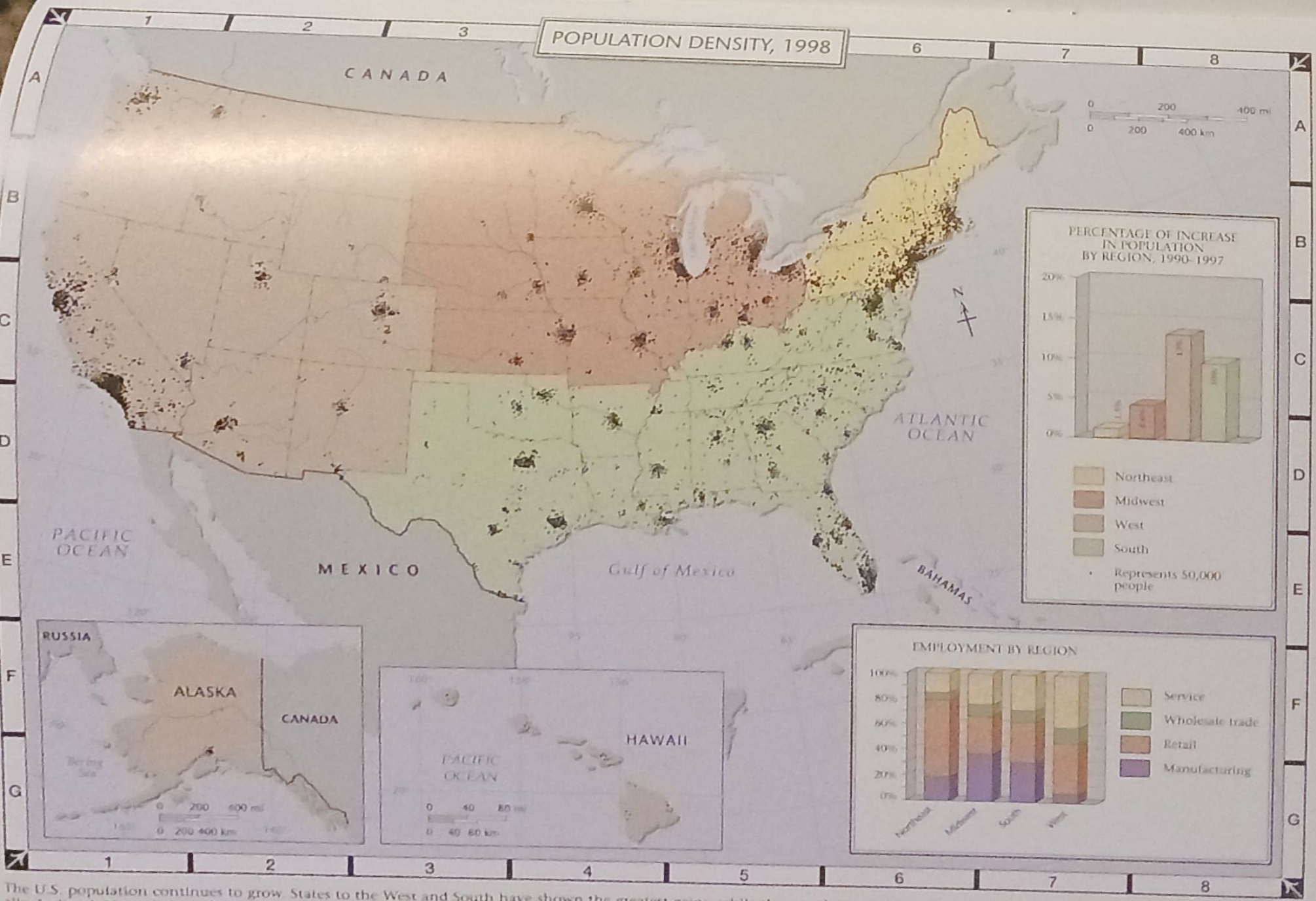
Many Americans were drawn to the West Coast and the Sunbelt (states to the south and southwest) after World War II. This migration was prompted by diverse factors, including the employment opportunities offered by the growing defense-related industries in these regions, and the development of air conditioning, which made residence in these hotter climates more pleasant. The burgeoning populations of these states increased their political power at the expense of the declining Midwest and Northeast. Were the shifts in population during this period also characterized by a movement from interior regions to coastal areas?



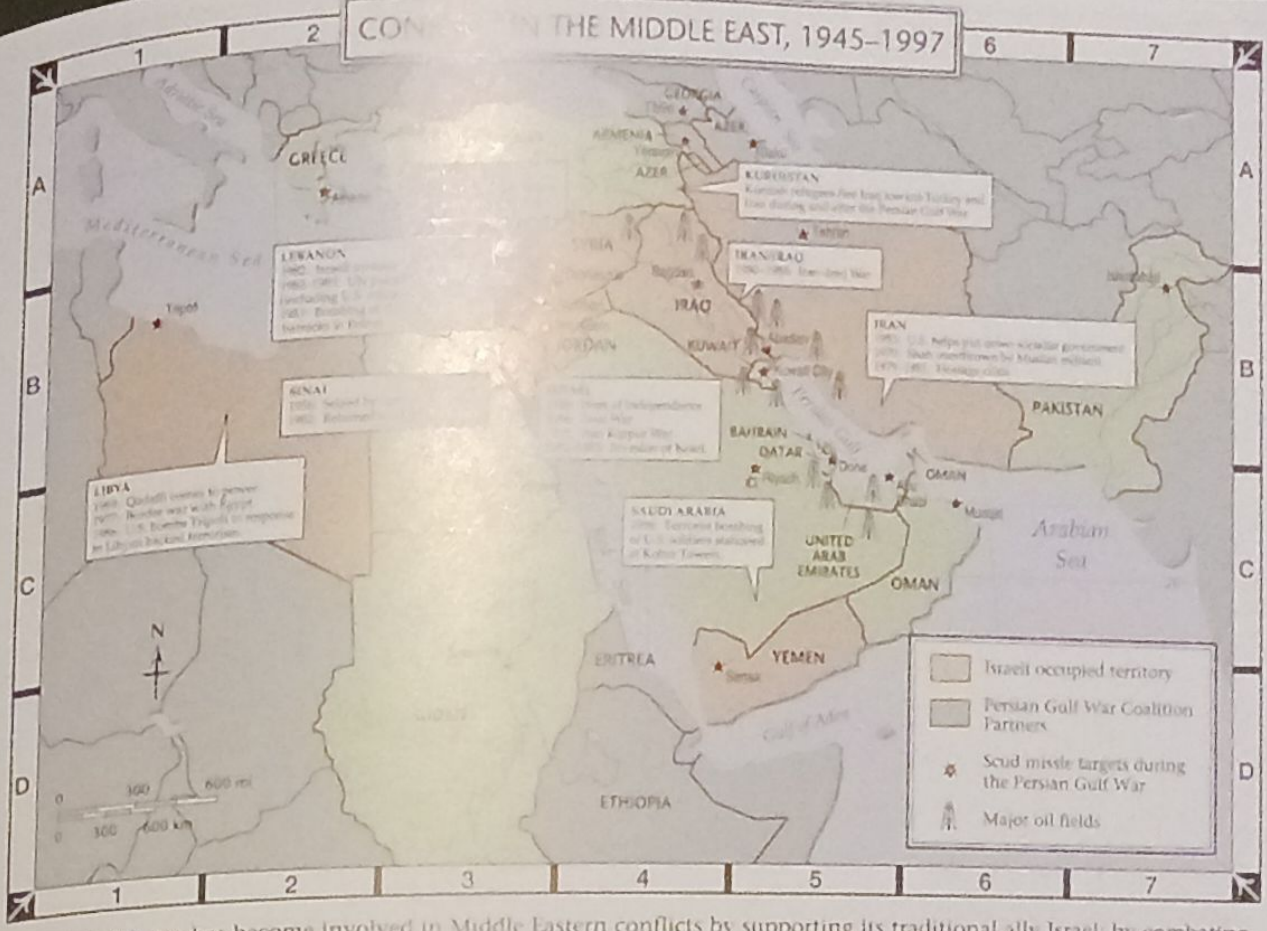
Following World War II, the character of immigration to the United States began to change. While immigrants arriving at the beginning of the century came primarily from Western and Eastern Europe, the latter half of the century showed increasing numbers coming from Asia and Latin America. Which cities served as major gateways for immigrants during this period? Why?



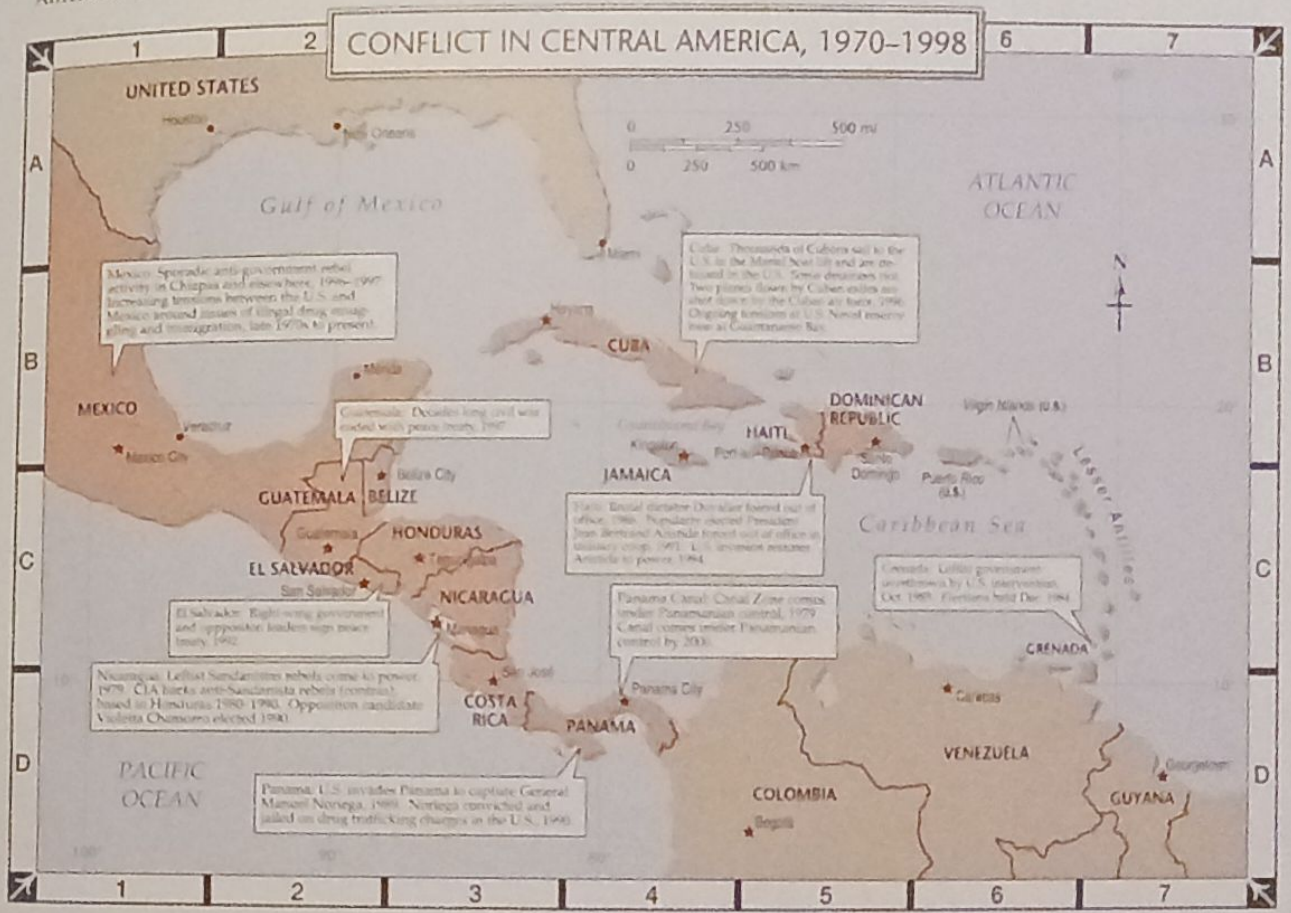
The United States is more interconnected than ever before, as highways link major cities and small towns. Has the Interstate Highway System helped to erase or preserve regional differences in the United States?



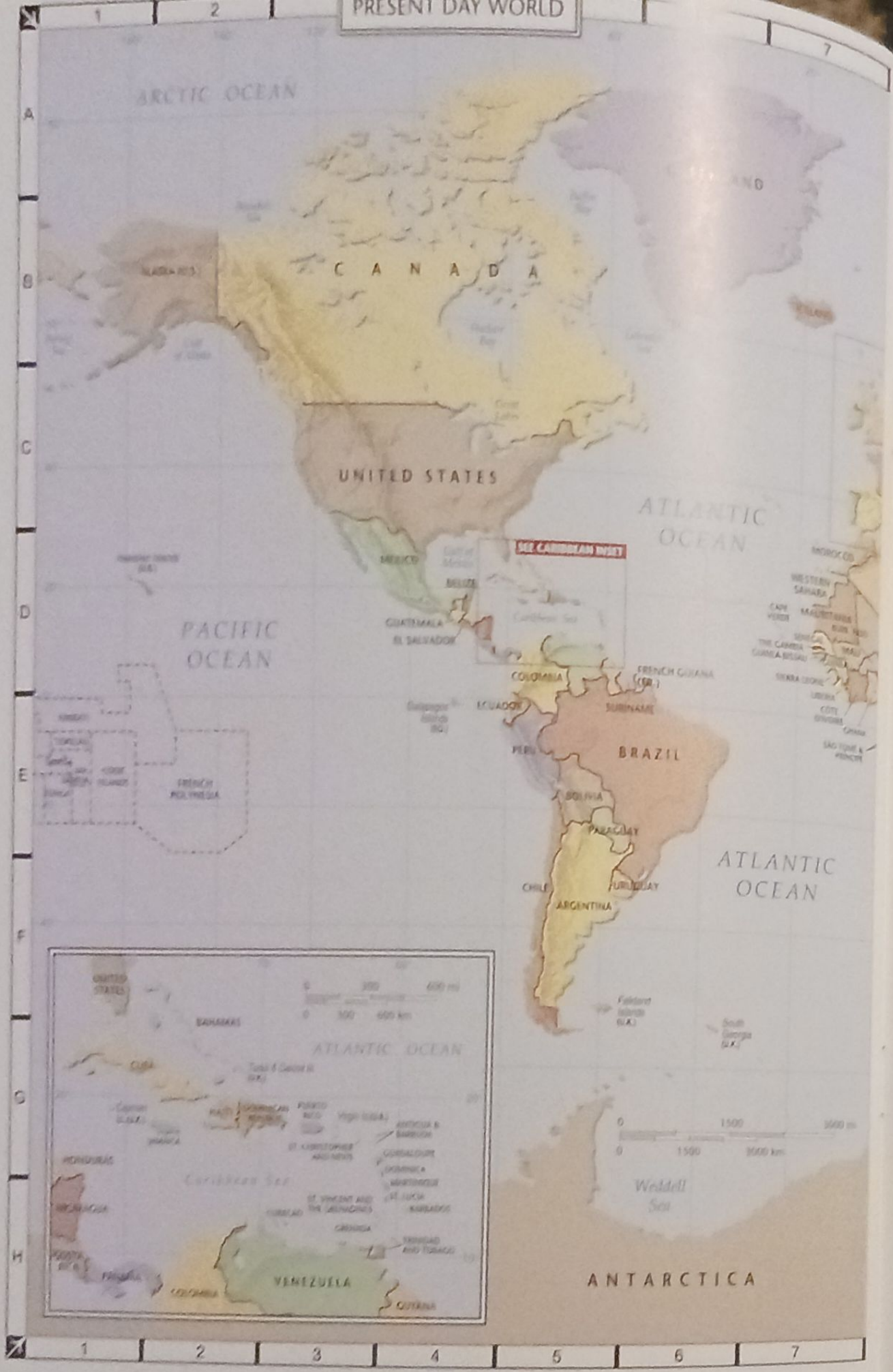
The U.S. population continues to grow. States to the West and South have shown the greatest gains, while the populations of eastern states remain stagnant and in some cases, have actually declined. Nevertheless, the people in the U.S. remain clustered in metropolitan areas. Note the "Bowash" megalopolis between the Boston and Washington areas.



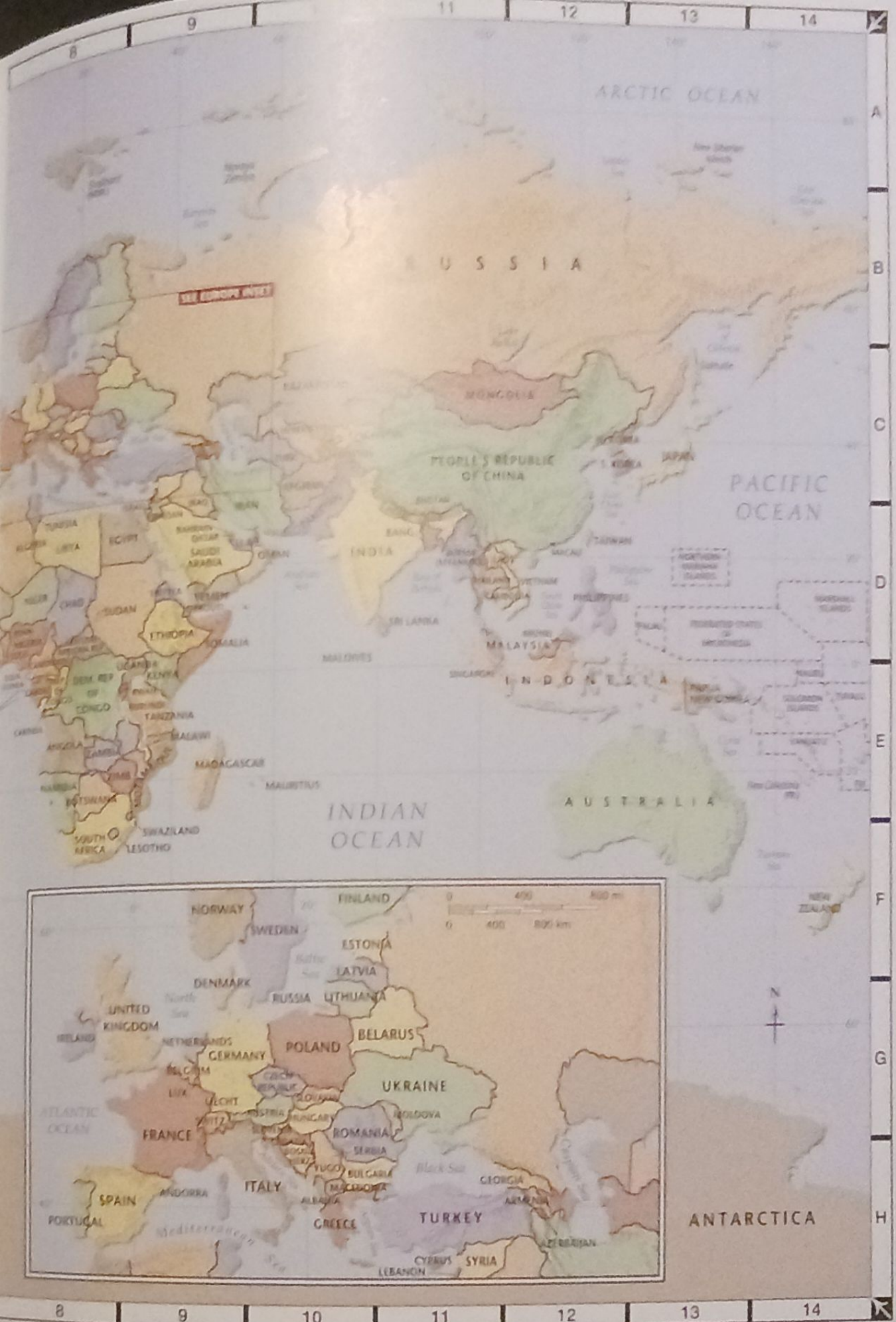
The United States has become involved in Middle Eastern conflicts by supporting its traditional ally Israel; by combating terrorist forces in Libya, Iran, and Lebanon; and most recently by repelling the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. How did the American need to import oil affect U.S. policy in the Middle East during this period?



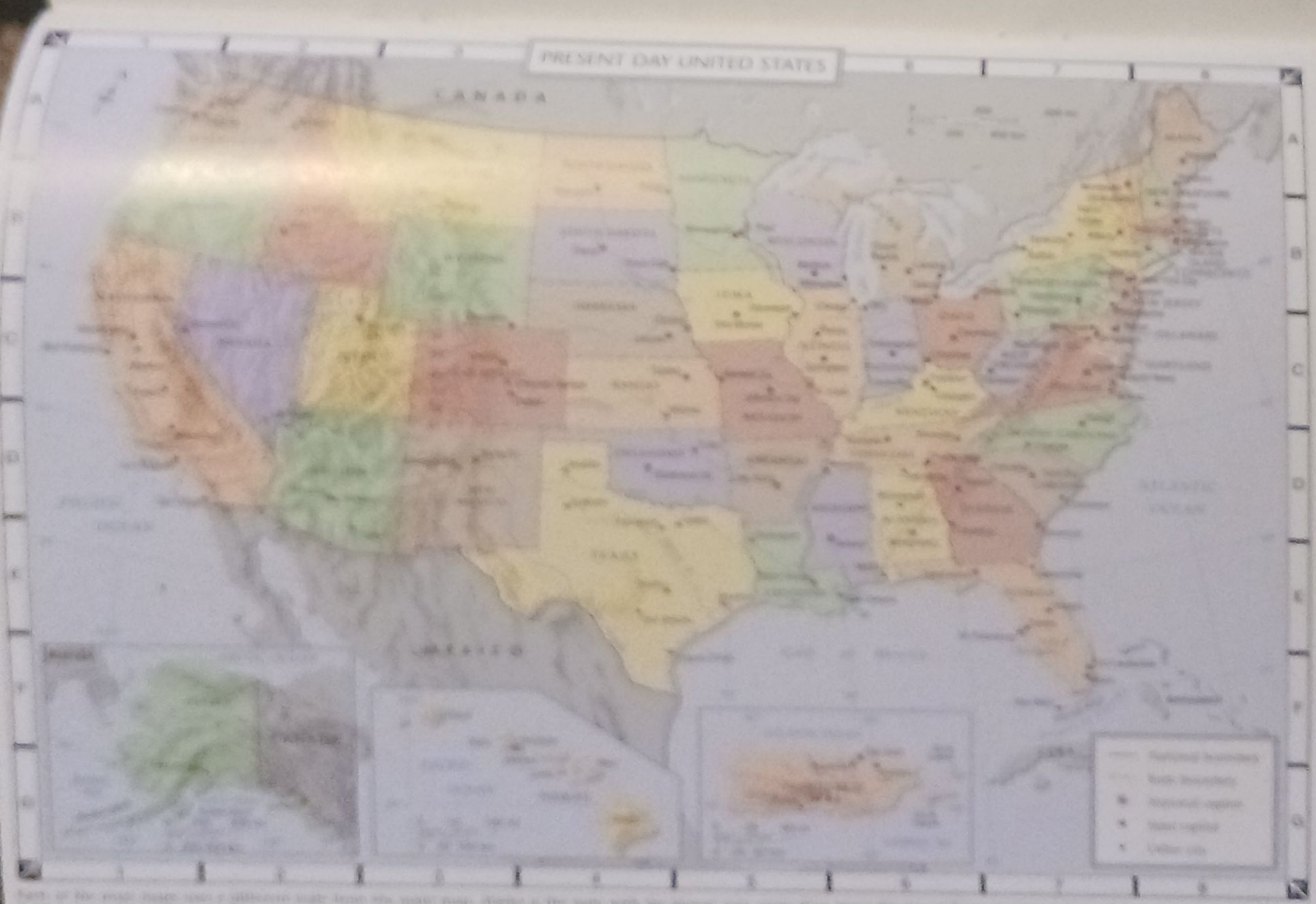
Viewing the Western Hemisphere as its special zone of influence, the United States has often become involved in Central American conflicts. In addition to applying diplomatic pressure on issues of drugs and immigration, the U.S. government has often taken more active role in influencing its southern neighbors. Covert assistance to anti-communist rebels and direct military intervention have been used to ensure the establishment of regimes more friendly to the United States. How might the location of the places in the Caribbean have effected the geopolitical situation? Is the Panama Canal east or west of Miami? Which capital is closest to Granada: Mexico City, Brasilia or Washington?



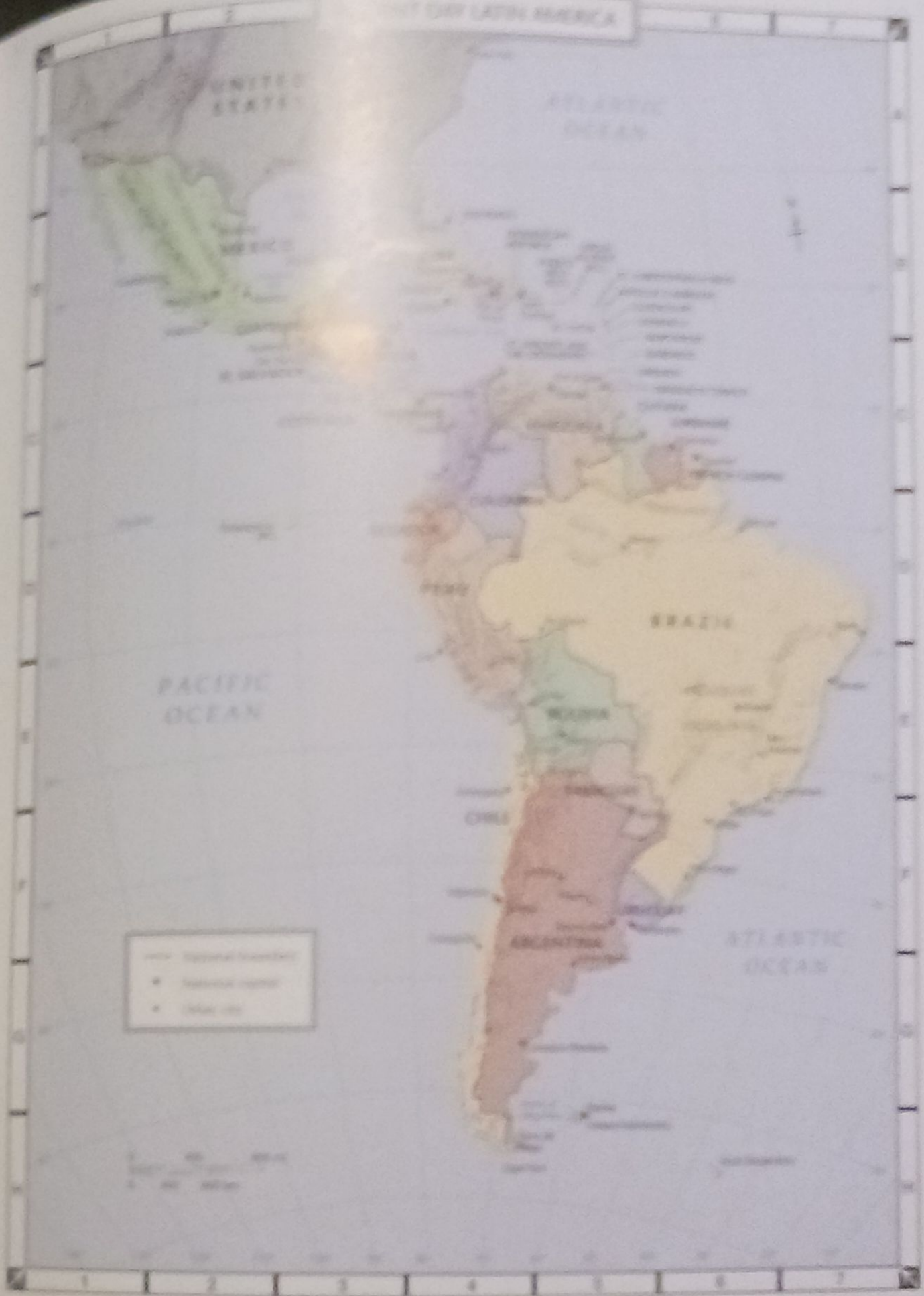
The areas on this political map of the world are greatly distorted by the Mercator projection. This image exaggerates the sizes of the countries as they get closer to the poles. How many nations have territory above 40



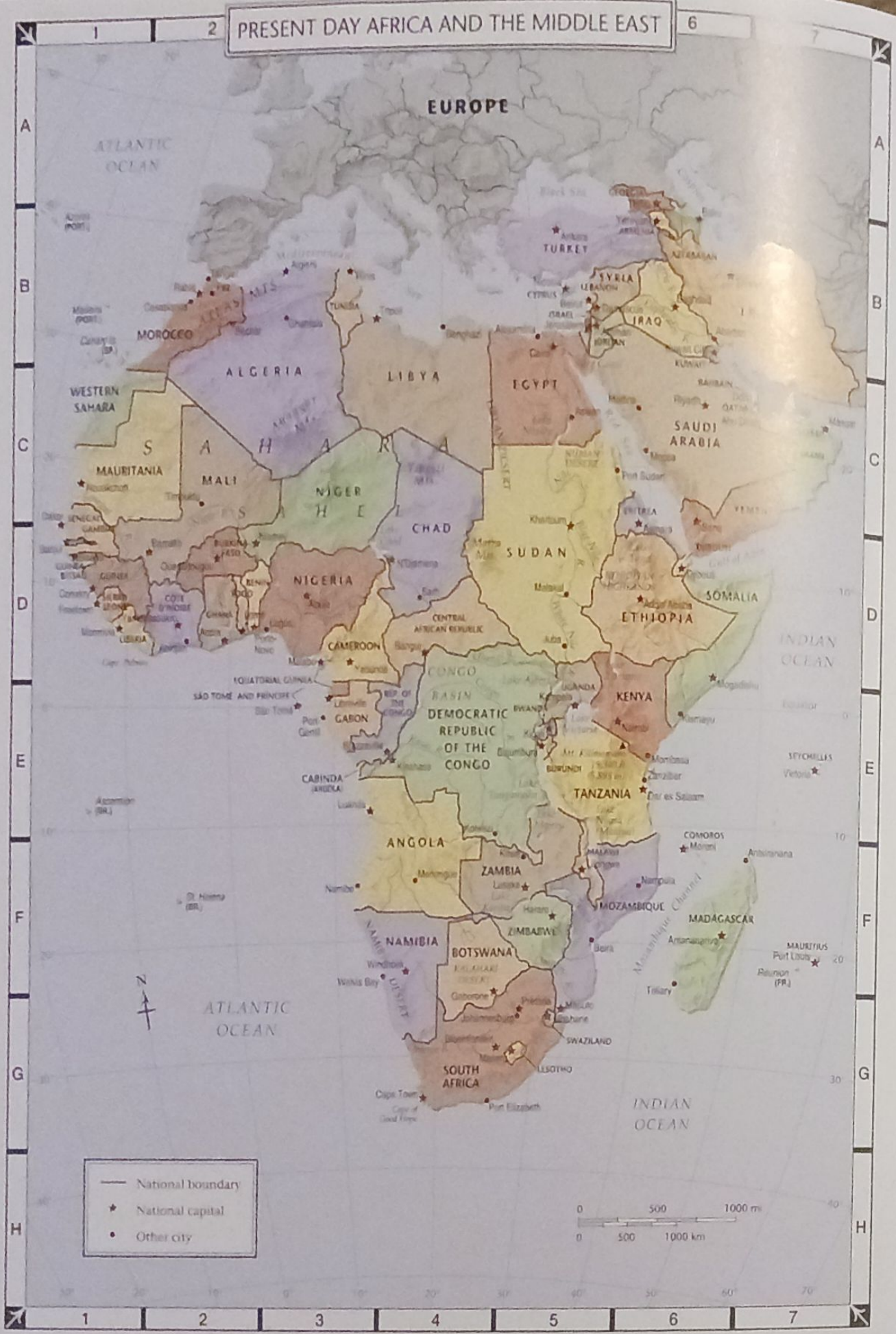
degrees of latitude in the Northern and Southern hemispheres?



Part of the map uses a different scale from the main map. Alaska is the state with the largest area, more than twice the size of Texas. In terms of population, note that the hottest states (the California, Texas, and Florida are filled with color. Should the states be sized as you think would be the smallest in terms of population?



Latin America is composed of the continents of South America, the huge isthmus of Central America which connects North and South America, and the islands of the Caribbean Sea. Which is the largest nation in Latin America, both in terms of area and population? What language is spoken there?



Locate the Sahara, the desert that extends across the northern part of the continent. The region north of the Sahara is often considered part of the Arab World, closely associated with the Middle East. To the South is Sub-Saharan Africa. Which river connects the two regions?

Australia is usually considered a continent, the only one to be occupied by only one nation. China, the most populous country in the world, is surrounded by other nations with many people: India, Indonesia, Japan, Pakistan and Bangladesh. Which nations in Asia and Oceania have capital cites south of the equator?

It is difficult to say where Europe begins and where Asia ends. Russia, definitely a European nation, extends all the way across Asia. The peninsula called Asia Minor is occupied by Turkey, which is included here as a European nation. What factors might be considered in suggesting an eastern boundary for Europe?

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